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Southeast Asia Report

VIETNAM

TAP CHI CONG SAN

No 7, JULY 1986

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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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LET US TURN OUR GRIEF INTO REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 1-4

[Editorial]

[Text] Le Duan, general secretary of our party's central committee, is no longer with us!

The heart of this staunch communist militant stopped beating at 0330 hours on 10 July 1986.

To our party, our army, our people, this was a truly enormous loss.

The life of Le Duan was a shining example of sacrifice and struggle for national independence and socialism, for communist ideals. In his nearly 60 years of revolutionary activity, he devoted his life to the cause of liberating the nation, reunifying the fatherland and advancing the entire country to socialism.

Awakened by the revolution at an early date, Le Duan was among the first to follow Nguyen Ai Quoc's "Revolutionary Road," to follow the path of national salvation based on Marxism-Leninism, the path of combining the national revolution and the social revolution. With firm confidence in the bright future of the nation and mankind, he fought tenaciously and bravely, fought the enemy face to face, undaunted by their torture and never fearing imprisonment, giving his all to the cause of liberating the fatherland, the laboring people. In the face of bitter challenges, he displayed boundless loyalty to the party, the fatherland and the people. An outstanding student of President Ho Chi Minh, Le Duan was a distinguished leader of our party and people, a staunch militant of the international communist and worker movement, of the national independence movement.

The revolutionary activities of Le Duan were closely associated with the revolutionary processes carried out by our people under the leadership of our party, the party founded and forged by President Ho Chi Minh. From the very day our party was founded, he not only waged a determined struggle against imperialism and feudalism, but also struggled tirelessly against the political line of the bourgeoisie and opportunist tendencies to establish the role of the working class and the communist party as the leader of our country's

revolution. He was one of the founders of the Democratic Front (1936-1939) and led this front. He was one of the persons who proposed a shift in the direction of the party's political line when World War II began (1939-1940).

In the resistance against France (1946-1954), at the direction of President Ho Chi Minh and the Party Central Committee, Le Duan led the party organization of the South in organizing the war of resistance in Nam Bo and carrying out the agrarian revolution in liberated areas.

Following the signing of the Geneva Agreement, he remained in the South to lead the revolutionary movement. Working under exceedingly difficult and dangerous circumstances, he lived among the masses and travelled from remote rural areas to industrial centers and cities to propagandize, mobilize and organize the masses and maintain the fight against the imperialists and their lackeys. Le Duan's presence in the South during those very difficult years and months was a great source of inspiration to the compatriots of the South and strengthened their confidence in the leadership of the party and President Ho, in the bright future of the nation. Trusted and protected by the masses, he led the party organization of the South in restoring the organization system destroyed by the enemy, strengthening and developing the revolution's base and preparing for the fight against the U.S. imperialists.

In 1957, in keeping with a decision by the Party Central Committee, Le Duan moved to the North to lead the common work of the party beside President Ho.

In the resistance against the United States, Le Duan was the person who organized the implementation of the line of the party and President Ho on resisting the United States for national salvation. Following President Ho's death, Le Duan became the soul of the people's fight against the U.S. aggressors. He led the entire party, all our armed forces and all our people in successfully carrying out the sacred testament of President Ho and advancing the resistance against the United States for national salvation to total victory.

In the fight against the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, Le Duan led our party, armed forces and people in displaying a high spirit of vigilance, maintaining combat readiness, fighting bravely and defeating the aggression by the Chinese reactionaries and their lackeys on the northern border and the southwestern border, thereby firmly defending the Vietnamese socialist fatherland.

Under the banner of the great President Ho Chi Minh, Le Duan and the other leaders of the party led our entire party, all our armed forces and all our people in waging a steadfast, brave fight and winning exceedingly large victories: liberating the country, reunifying the fatherland, advancing the entire country toward socialism and firmly defending the socialist fatherland.

As regards the building of the country, under the leadership of our party headed by Le Duan, our people recorded important achievements in restoring, transforming and developing the economy and carrying out cultural development in the direction of socialism.

On the international front, Le Duan made large contributions in strengthening our solidarity and cooperation in every field with the Soviet Union, building the special alliance with Laos and Cambodia, uniting and cooperating with the other fraternal countries and parties and supporting the struggle by the people of all countries against the imperialists and reactionaries and for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

A strategist with foresight and breadth of vision, Le Duan made large contributions to mapping out the revolutionary line of our party in the national, democratic revolution as well as the socialist revolution. The reports presented by him at the 3rd, 4th and 5th Congresses of the Party set the line on the socialist revolution of our country, a former colony of imperialism, a country in which small-scale production predominates, a country that is advancing to socialism without experiencing the stage of capitalist development. He also defined the relationship between socialist construction in one-half of the country and the completion of the national democratic revolution nationwide, between socialist construction and the defense of the fatherland. He made large contributions in solving the problems related to our country making the transition to socialism without experiencing the stage of capitalist development.

A revolutionary theorist, he creatively applied the universal principles of Marxism-Leninism to the specific conditions of Vietnam and developed upon the revolutionary thinking of President Ho Chi Minh. He advanced the theoretical arguments on collective ownership; on the three revolutions; on building the new system, building the new economy, establishing the new culture and molding the new, socialist man; on the mechanism "the party leads, the people exercise ownership, the state manages"; on the party when in power; on the advance from small-scale production to large-scale, socialist production; on building the local economy; on building the district level...

He enriched the thinking of President Ho and our party concerning revolutionary method and revolutionary war with his arguments on the thinking of an offensive strategy; on combining the political struggle and the armed struggle; on combining a general offensive and general uprising; on the two feet and three spearheads; on the three forms of close range combat; on the three strategic zones; on local coordinated uprisings and guerrilla war; on the local people's war; on position, forces and opportunity; on the need for lightning-like speed and boldness and on time being a force; on the local people's war, the war of liberation and the war to defend the fatherland...

From an international perspective, he advanced the arguments on the offensive position of the revolution in the world; on the awakening of nations; on peace, national independence, democracy and socialism being one...

Tempered in the long revolutionary struggle, he displayed the fine qualities of the communist militant: a tenacious and unyielding spirit in the fight against national and class enemies; unquestioned loyalty to Marxism-Leninism, to the cause of liberating the fatherland and the people, to the ideals of communism; a high sense of organization, discipline and responsibility; completing each assigned task; being close to the masses; being deeply interested in man; profound humanism; modesty, simplicity... Having spent

decades toiling among the masses, having lived, worked and fought alongside the masses, Le Duan had a close relationship with the masses. He understood their thinking and aspirations. He had firm confidence in and deep feelings for the masses.

Le Duan attached special importance to the role played by the human factor in the cause of revolution. He was, therefore, concerned about molding the new man. He introduced "labor-love-reason" as the guideline for molding the new, socialist Vietnamese.

A creative Marxist-Leninist who possessed high fighting spirit, Le Duan made valuable contributions to building the storehouse of Vietnamese revolutionary theory.

Le Duan's nearly 60 years of practical and theoretical activities were an enormous contribution to the revolutionary cause of our party and our people.

Le Duan is no longer with us! But his glorious cause will live on forever in our party and our people.

As we mourn Le Duan's passing, let us remember and follow his advice.

While he was alive, he often advised us: the party is the factor determining each victory of the revolution; therefore, attention must be given to building the party so that unity and consensus within the party are constantly strengthened.

Le Duan advised us to implement the right of ownership of the people. For the state to be independent, the people must become the masters of the country. Respecting and upholding the people's right of ownership in the fields of politics, economics, culture and society are the obligation of we communists.

He advised us: our country is independent but aggressors are threatening our independence. We must heighten our vigilance, always be in a state of combat readiness and fight aggressors, most importantly the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, well in order to firmly defend the Vietnamese socialist fatherland.

He also advised that we must concern ourselves with transforming and developing the economy, with carrying out cultural development in order to build a prosperous fatherland and improve the life of the people. He advised us to attach importance to building the local economy, building the district level and building the district agro-industrial economic structure.

He advised us to always cultivate and build international solidarity, maintain a strategic alliance and cooperate in every field with the Soviet Union, strengthen our special militant solidarity with Laos and Cambodia, unite and cooperate with the other fraternal countries and do our best to help strengthen the three revolutionary currents of our times for the sake of peace, national independence, democracy and social progress.

We will always remember and follow these words of advice of Le Duan.

As we mourn Le Duan's passing, let us turn the grief we feel into revolutionary actions, strengthen our unity around the Party Central Committee and make every effort to successfully build socialism and firmly defend the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Following Le Duan's example, let each of our cadres and party members work, study and train hard and make every effort to cultivate better revolutionary qualities and skills and complete each assigned task well. Let each of us redouble our efforts to emulate one another in accelerating production and practicing frugality, in maintaining combat readiness and fighting well, in winning new victories for our country's revolutionary cause. Let our entire party, all our armed forces and all our people make good preparations for the party's 6th Congress.

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CSO: 4210/12

COMMUNIQUE ON THE DEATH OF LE DUAN, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPV CENTRAL COMMITTEE, ISSUED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THE COUNCIL OF STATE, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND THE PRESIDUM OF THE VFF CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 p 5, 6

[Text] The CPV Central Committee, the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the VFF Central Committee are boundlessly grieved to announce that Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, passed away at 0330 on 10 July 1986 [2030 GMT on 9 July] after a period of serious illness. He was 79.

During Comrade Le Duan's serious illness, our party and state cared for him, sending a contingent of competent professors and doctors with adequate facilities to wholeheartedly treat him. But Comrade Le Duan, in advanced age and seriously ill, has departed from us.

During the nearly 60 years of his revolutionary activities, his absolute loyalty to Marxism-Leninism and to the interests of the fatherland and the people, Comrade Le Duan devoted his entire life to national liberation and reunification, and to advancing our entire country toward socialism.

A prominent disciple of President Ho Chi Minh, Comrade Le Duan was an eminent leader of our party and people, and a stalwart combatant of the international communist movement, the workers' movement and the national independence movement.

Comrade Le Duan's passing away is a great loss to our party and people. To show their remembrance of and gratitude to Comrade Le Duan, a joint meeting of the SRV CPV Central Committee, National Assembly, Council of State, Council of Ministers and Presidium of the VFF Central Committee have decided:

1. To organize national funerals for him with solemn rites of our country;
2. To have our entire party, people and Army mourn for Comrade Le Duan for 5 days, from 11 July to 15 July 1986.

During these grievous days, the CPV Central Committee, National Assembly, Council of State, Council of Ministers of the SRV and Presidium of the VFF

Central Committee call on our entire party, people and Army to translate grief into revolutionary actions, strengthen solidarity and singlemindedness around the Party Central Committee and devote all of their spirit and force to successfully building socialism and firmly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

Emulating Comrade Le Duan, let all cadres and party members develop their role as exemplary vanguards; endeavor in their work, study and training; unceasingly enhance their revolutionary qualities and capabilities; and accomplish well all of their duties. Let our entire party make the best preparations for the 6th CPV Congress. Let our entire people and Army whip up a seething revolutionary movement, promote production, practice thrift, stand ready to fight and fight well and make worthy contributions to advancing our country's revolutionary undertaking to new successes. Let us commemorate Comrade Le Duan with practical revolutionary actions.

Hanoi, 10 July 1986

The CPV Central Committee, the SRV National Assembly, The SRV Council of State, the SRV Council of Ministers and the Presidium of the VFF Central Committee

CSO: 4210/12

STATE FUNERAL COMMITTEE LISTED

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 7, 8

[Text] 1. Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the State Council of the SRV. [Hanoi VNA in English at 1624 GMT on 10 July also identifies Truong Chinh as: "head of the state funeral committee."]

2. Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the SRV.

3. Pham Hung, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers.

4. Le Duc Tho, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee.

5. General Van Tien Dung, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and minister of national defense.

6. Vo Chi Cong, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice president of the State Council.

7. Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice president of the State Council.

8. To Huu, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee.

9. Nguyen Van Linh, Political Bureau member and secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

10. Vo Van Kiet, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

11. Do Muoi, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

12. Nguyen Duc Tam, Political Bureau member and secretary of the CPV Central Committee and head of its organizing committee.

13. Le Duc Anh, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and deputy minister of national defense.

14. Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs.

15. Dong Si Nguyen, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers.

16. Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the National Assembly and vice president of the State Council.

17. Huynh Tan Phat, vice president of the State Council and president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front.

18. Nguyen Xien, general secretary of the Vietnam Socialist Party and vice chairman of the National Assembly.

19. Nghiem Xuan Yem, general secretary of the Vietnam Democratic Party and vice chairman of the National Assembly.

20. Hoang Truong Minh, member of the CPV Central Committee, head of the Nationalities Commission of the Party Central Committee and president of the Nationalities Council.

21. Nguyen Thi Dinh, member of the CPV Central Committee and president of the Vietnam Women's Union.

22. Pham The Duyet, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and acting president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions.

23. Vu Mao, member of the CPV Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union.

24. The Reverend Vo Thanh Trinh, president of the Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics and vice chairman of the National Assembly.

25. The most venerable Thich Duc Nhuan, head of the Sangha Council and the Vietnam Buddhist Church.

CSO: 4210/12

BIOGRAPHY OF LE DUAN

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 9-11

[Unattributed article]

[Text] Comrade Le Duan was born on 7 April 1907 at Hau Kien Village, Trieu Thanh commune, Trieu Phong District, Quang Tri Province (now Binh Tri Thien Province). Born into a family of working people with a tradition of patriotism he was early awakened to the revolutionary cause.

Comrade Le Duan was among the first generation to respond to the appeal of Comrade Nguyen Ai Quoc (President Ho Chi Minh) to follow the revolutionary path of Marxism-Leninism. He joined the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association in 1928 and in 1930 became one of the first members of the Indochinese Communist Party. In 1931 he was a member of the Propaganda and Training Commission of the Regional Party Committee for Tonkin (North Vietnam) and the same year he was arrested in Haiphong by the French colonialists, sentenced to 20 (twenty) years of imprisonment and was detained in the prisons of Hanoi, Son La and Con Dao (Poulo Condor).

In these prisons, together with other members of the communist party he led the struggles against the harsh prison regime and organized political studies among the prisoners.

In 1936, due to the struggle of the Vietnamese people and the success of the Popular Front in France, the colonial administration in Indochina was forced to release many Vietnamese revolutionaries including Le Duan. Immediately after his release, Le Duan engaged in active revolutionary activities in the central Vietnam provinces, implemented the Party Central Committee's decision to found the Indochinese Democratic Front aimed at mobilizing and rallying the masses for the struggle against the colonial reactionaries and against the fascist and war danger. In 1937 Le Duan was appointed secretary of the Regional Party Committee for Central Vietnam and from then to 1939 his activities made an important contribution to taking the revolution to a high tide throughout the country.

In 1939 Le Duan was appointed to the Standing Committee of the Party Central Committee and later that year together with Nguyen Van Cu, secretary general of the party, he chaired the 6th Plenary Meeting of the Party Central

Committee which decided to found the Indochinese Anti-imperialist Front in replacement of the Democratic Front, switching the revolutionary struggle to a new period.

In 1940, he was again arrested, this time in Saigon, and was given 10 years imprisonment and deported to Con Dao (Poulo Condor) for the second time until the success of the August Revolution in 1945 when he was welcomed back to the mainland by the party and government and joined the resistance in the South.

In 1946 he went to Hanoi and worked beside President Ho Chi Minh, contributing together with the Party Central Committee to preparing for the anti-French war of resistance. Later that year he was assigned by President Ho and the Party Central Committee to lead the resistance in the South. At the 2nd National Congress of the Party in 1951 he was elected to the Central Committee and the Political Bureau. From 1946 to 1954 in his position as secretary of the Regional Party Committee for South Vietnam, then secretary of the Party Central Commission for the South, he led the southern party organization in organizing the resistance in the South and carrying out the land reform in the liberated zones.

From 1954 to 1957, following the Geneva Agreement, Le Duan stayed back in the South to lead the revolutionary movement. During those extremely difficult years he lived among the people and under their protection, operating in remote rural areas and in urban centers to consolidate the revolutionary bases in preparation for the fight against the American interventionists.

In 1957 the Party Central Committee appointed him to lead the general affairs of the party beside President Ho Chi Minh. In 1960, at the 3rd National Congress of the Party, on behalf of the Central Committee Le Duan presented the Political Report in which he pointed out the two strategic tasks of the revolution, i.e. carrying out the socialist revolution in the North and completing the national people's democratic revolution in the South, combining the revolution in both zones with a view to completing national liberation and achieving national reunification. At this congress, he was again elected to the Central Committee and to the Political Bureau and named to the post of first secretary of the party and secretary of the Central Party Commission for the Vietnam People's Army.

Throughout the 15 years at these posts, in the conditions of the country experiencing extremely serious trial and in a very complicated development of the international situation, Le Duan together with the Political Bureau and the Central Committee persisted in the line of independence and sovereignty while enlisting international aid, assistance and solidarity, clearsightedly leading the people and the revolutionary armed forces throughout the country to defeat the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen, liberate the South, reunify the country and take the whole country in the advance to socialism.

At the 4th National Congress of the Party in 1976 and the 5th National Congress in 1982 Le Duan was again elected to the Central Committee and the Political Bureau and was made general secretary.

At the 4th Party Congress, the Political Report of the Party Central Committee presented by Le Duan summed up the victory of the anti-U.S. resistance and laid down the general line of the socialist revolution in the country.

At the 5th National Congress of the Party, on behalf of the Party Central Committee, Le Duan presented the Political Report, pointing to the two strategic tasks, i.e. successfully building socialism and firmly defending the socialist fatherland, at the same time laying down the economic strategy in the first stage of the transitional period.

For more than 10 years now, uniting around the Central Committee led by Le Duan, the Vietnamese people and army have fought courageously and won victories in two wars of national defense against the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and their agents on the southwestern and northern borders, and achieved important successes in the economic rehabilitation, transformation and development and cultural development along the socialist line.

An excellent and close disciple of beloved Comrade Ho Chi Minh, Comrade Le Duan was an eminent leader of the party and a creative and imaginative theoretician endowed with valuable virtues, especially his profound humanism, simple manners and modesty. In his international activities Le Duan made an important contribution to building and consolidating the special solidarity among Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia; consolidating and developing Vietnam's all-round cooperation and fraternal friendship with the Soviet Union and the other countries in the socialist community; steadfastly struggling to preserve the purity of Marxism-Leninism; and strengthening the militant solidarity within the international communist and workers' movement and the national liberation movement.

Le Duan was a deputy to the National Assembly from the 2nd to the present 7th Legislature.

In view of his great contributions, the party and state have awarded him the Sao Vang (Gold Star) Order. Many fraternal countries like the Soviet Union, Laos, Cambodia, Poland, Bulgaria, Cuba, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia and Czechoslovakia have also conferred many high distinctions on him. The international Lenin Prize Committee has conferred on him the prize "for the consolidation of peace among nations."

CSO: 4210/12

EULOGY DELIVERED BY GENERAL SECRETARY TRUONG CHINH AT THE FUNERAL CEREMONY FOR
GENERAL SECRETARY LE DUAN

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 12-14

[Text] Dear comrades and friends, Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee—an outstanding leader of the party and a loyal son of the people—has left us forever. This is a great loss for our entire party and people.

A member of the party's vanguard and a talented pupil of respected and beloved President Ho Chi Minh, Comrade Le Duan devoted his entire life to the liberation of the nation and the reunification of the fatherland, to the freedom and happiness of the people and to the ideals of communism.

His active life over the past nearly 60 years was closely linked with the development of the revolution in our country from the 1920's to the 1980's. He participated in activities in all parts of the country—north, central and south—and dealt with all kinds of challenges and difficulties, always staying in close contact with cadres, soldiers and the working people.

In the late 1930's until his death, he was an important leader of the party; and beginning in 1960, as first secretary and then general secretary of the Party Central Committee, he made major contributions to the party's leadership, advancing our people's revolutionary undertaking from one victory to another. His unconventional ideals and goals were for national independence and reunification and the people's right to mastery over the country, society and their own lives.

As a genuine Marxist-Leninist, he always thought about the actual situation and analyzed and resolved new problems arising from life. His clear-sightedness was strikingly reflected at the turning points of history and in complicated circumstances. His confidence remained very firm in the face of successes as well as temporary setbacks for the revolution—during its rising tide as well as its ebbing tide. During the dark years under the neo-colonial system of the U.S. imperialists in the South, he had a clear vision of the possibility of the people winning victory through the masses' concerted uprising.

Together with the Political Bureau and the Party Central Committee led by the great President Ho Chi Minh, he defined the lines and policies for the wars of resistance for national liberation and defense, developed the Vietnamese revolutionary military science, defeated the wars of aggression by imperialism and other international reactionary forces, and vigorously promoted the world people's struggle against imperialism and colonialism for independence and freedom.

Since the total liberation of the South and the reunification of the fatherland that allowed for the entire country to advance toward socialism, he helped clarify many theoretical and practical issues with a view to defining and perfecting the line of the socialist revolution in our country in order to enable it--a backward agricultural country--to advance directly to socialism without passing through the stage of capitalist development.

Upholding the banner of national independence and socialism, he persistently observed the principle of combining the strength of the nation with the strength of our times and domestic strength with international strength to carry out the two strategic tasks of building and defending the fatherland.

Comrade Le Duan's contributions to the revolutionary cause of our party and people are truly great.

Through his long service and great activities, Comrade Le Duan has set a valuable example for the Vietnamese people, especially the communists, of boundless faithfulness to the noble interests of the fatherland and the people and the lofty communist ideology. His noble revolutionary ethics gave rise to his consistent spirit of revolutionary offensive. Faced with ordeals in imperialist prisons, prolonged hardship in various war zones and difficulties during years of activities in areas temporarily controlled by the enemy, Comrade Le Duan always maintained his staunch energy, showed his readiness to sacrifice his life for the fatherland's independence and freedom and the people's happiness.

Comrade Le Duan led a faithful and simple life, staying close to the people and showing his warm love and sincerity for everyone. He always listened to the people's ideas and paid attention to their aspirations. He valued highly the people's experiences in order to formulate positions and policies based on these valuable experiences.

Comrade Le Duan was a great compatriot and a genuine international communist. Throughout his life he followed the example of President Ho Chi Minh, paying attention and contributing to consolidating and strengthening international solidarity between revolutionary and progressive forces in the world in the common struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism. Following the path of the great Lenin and the October Revolution, he consistently tried to foster and strengthen the special friendship, militant solidarity and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union and develop a special alliance between Vietnam and fraternal Laos and Cambodia and with other countries of the socialist community. He consistently paid attention to and studied international revolutionary experiences and kept himself well informed of international developments.

Comrade Le Duan has left us for good, but his memory will live forever in our party's and people's revolutionary cause. The history of our country will forever confirm his great service and outstanding contributions. His examples will help light the way for us forever.

Dear respected and beloved Comrade Le Duan, we respectfully bow down to bid our last farewell to you and share the grief of your family. We pledge to do our best to strengthen unity and singlemindedness within the entire party, people and army around the Party Central Committee and the Political Bureau, strive to overcome the immediate difficulties, stabilize the situation in all respects, care for the people's life, develop the working people's right to collective mastery, step up the three revolutions, carry out socialist industrialization and realize the two strategic tasks of successfully building socialism and firmly defending the socialist fatherland of Vietnam with a view to leading our people's glorious revolutionary cause to final victory.

CSO: 4210/12

NOTICE ISSUED BY SPECIAL PLENUM OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 p 15

[Text] On 14 July 1986, the Central Committee of the CPV held a special meeting to elect the general secretary to replace the just deceased Comrade Le Duan. Amid a solemn and emotional atmosphere, the conferees observed a minute of silence in commemoration of Comrade General Secretary Le Duan, an eminent leader of our party and people. The conferees observed a minute of silence in commemoration of Comrade Hoang Van Thai, member of the Party Central Committee, general and deputy defense minister.

On behalf of the Political Bureau, Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau, introduced Comrade Truong Chinh as general secretary. The Central Committee meeting unanimously elected Comrade Truong Chinh as general secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

In his speech at the meeting, Comrade Truong Chinh expressed thanks for the trust of the Party Central Committee and called on the entire party, people and army to strengthen their solidarity and singlemindedness around the Party Central Committee to insure successful implementation of the important and urgent tasks for the immediate future and to continuously advance our country's revolutionary undertaking toward new successes.

CSO: 4210/12

SUMMARY BIOGRAPHY OF TRUONG CHINH

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 16-17

[Unattributed article]

[Text] Truong Chinh, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and chairman of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, was born on 9 February 1907.

He was born in Hanh Thien Village in Xuan Truong District, Nam Dinh Province, present day Xuan Hong Village in Xuan Thuy District, Ha Nam Ninh Province.

In 1925, he took part in the movement demanding that the French imperialists grant amnesty to the patriot Phan Boi Chau and, in 1926, was one of the leaders of the student boycott staged to commemorate the death of the patriot Phan Chu Trinh in Nam Dinh. Following this boycott, Truong Chinh was expelled from school.

In 1927, he joined the Association of Vietnamese Revolutionary Youth, a forerunner of the Indochinese Communist Party.

In 1929, he participated in the campaign in Tonkin to establish the Indochinese Communist Party.

In 1930, he was appointed to the Propaganda and Agitation Department of the Central Committee of the Indochinese Communist Party. Late that year, he was arrested by the imperialists, sentenced to 12 years in prison and exiled to Son La.

In late 1936, as a result of the victory of the French Popular Front and the struggle by the people of Vietnam for democratic freedoms and the release of political prisoners, he regained his freedom.

From late 1936 to 1939, he conducted lawful and quasi-lawful activities in Hanoi as a member of the Tonkin Regional Party Committee and representative of the Indochinese Communist Party on the Tonkin Democratic Front Committee. When World War II broke out, he immediately shifted to unlawful activities.

In 1940, he became editor of LIBERATION Newspaper, the organ of the Tonkin Regional Party Committee. At the 7th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Indochinese Communist Party, he was appointed to the Party Central Committee.

In 1941, at the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, he was elected general secretary of the Party Central Committee, member of the Standing Committee of the Party Central Committee, head of the Propaganda and Training Department and editor of LIBERATION FLAG Newspaper (the organ of the Party Central Committee) and COMMUNIST REVIEW (the political and theoretical organ of the party) and of the Civilian Proselyting Department of the Party Central Committee.

In 1943, he was convicted by the military court of the French colonialists in Hanoi and sentenced to death in absentia.

In 1945, he was in charge of the National Uprising Committee established by the Party Central Committee.

In 1951, at the 2nd Congress of the Party, he was reappointed to the Party Central Committee as general secretary of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party. (At this congress, the Indochinese Communist Party changed its name to the Vietnam Lao Dong Party).

In 1953, he served as the head of the Agrarian Reform Department of the Party Central Committee.

In 1958, he served as deputy premier and head of the State Science Commission.

In 1960, at the 3rd Congress of the Party, he was reappointed to the Party Central Committee and appointed as a member of the Political Bureau, taking charge of National Assembly work.

In 1976, at the 4th Congress of the Party, he was reappointed to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (at that congress, the Vietnam Lao Dong Party changed its name to the Communist Party of Vietnam). He was a member of the Political Bureau, in charge of the Department of Research on Party History of the Party Central Committee and the Theory Department of the Party Central Committee.

In 1976, he was elected chairman of the Committee for the Drafting of the Constitution of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

He was a deputy to the 2nd National Assembly (1960-1964), the 3rd National Assembly (1964-1971), the 4th National Assembly (1971-1975), the 5th National Assembly (1975-1976), the 6th National Assembly (1976-1981) and the 7th National Assembly (1981-...). From the 2nd to the 6th National Assembly, he served as chairman of the Standing Committees of the National Assembly.

In 1981, he was elected chairman of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam by the National Assembly.

In 1982, at the 5th Congress of the Party, he was reappointed to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and as a member of the Political Bureau.

On 14 July 1986, a special plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam elected him general secretary of the Party Central Committee.

In 1982, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union awarded him the Order of Lenin for his active participation in the revolutionary movement and for his enormous contributions to the development and strengthening of the fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the two peoples of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

In 1982, he was awarded the Order of Xukhebato by the Officers of the National Assembly of the Mongolian People's Republic.

In 1982, he was awarded the National Gold Medal by the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

In 1982, he was awarded the Order of Jose Marti by the government of the Republic of Cuba.

In 1984, he was awarded the Order of the Flag with Diamond by the party and government of the Hungarian People's Republic.

In 1985, he was awarded the Order of Angkor by the party and government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

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CSO: 4210/12

SPEECH BY TRUONG CHINH AT THE SPECIAL PLENUM OF THE 5TH PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE (14 JULY 1986)

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 p 18

[Speech by Truong Chinh]

[Text] Dear Comrades: venerated and beloved Comrade General Secretary Le Duan has passed away. Our Party Central Committee is holding this special plenum to elect someone to continue his work. May I express my sincere thanks to the Party Central Committee for entrusting me with the heavy responsibility of general secretary, replacing Comrade Le Duan. I pledge to devote all my strength, together with the comrades in the Political Bureau and the Party Central Committee, to leading our entire party, armed forces and people to properly implement the party's line and policies set forth at the 4th and 5th Party Congresses and in the resolution of the 5th Party Central Committee's plenums and the Political Bureau.

Comrades, not much time is available between now and the 6th Party Congress, but the work that our Party Central Committee has to settle remains very great and pressing. On the one hand, we must concentrate on making good preparations for the 6th National Party Congress as regards the content of the party's political tasks and the personnel of the new Party Central Committee, while properly leading congresses of delegates of party organizations held at all levels. On the other hand, we must lead the proper settlement of urgent socio-economic problems raised by the 10th Plenum of the Party Central Committee; satisfactorily implement the tasks concerning national defense and security and external affairs; whip up a seething emulation movement of the entire party, people and armed forces to score practical achievements in honor of the 6th Party Congress; and create an atmosphere of enthusiasm and confidence to begin the congress.

Comrade General Secretary Le Duan's death was a great loss for our party and people. Our party and state are currently organizing a solemn funeral for him at a high level to manifest our entire party's and people's respect and affection for and profound gratitude to him.

More than ever before, our Party Central Committee must turn sorrow into strength, tighten its ranks, steadily observe party discipline, intensify its solidarity and singleness of mind based on Marxism-Leninism and the line of the 4th and 5th Party Congresses, as well as on the resolutions of the Party

Central Committee and the principles governing our party's organization and activities, in order to create a solid basis for strengthening the unity of the entire party, people and armed forces; insuring the proper implementation of important and pressing tasks in the immediate future; and continuously advancing the revolutionary undertaking of our party and people.

CSO: 4210/12

ACCELERATING PRODUCTION, PRACTICING ECONOMY AND BEING THE MASTERS OF THE MARKET AND PRICES

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 19-20

[Editorial]

[Text] During the past year, through the implementation of the resolution of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, we have achieved initial results in revamping the economic management mechanism. The mode of management based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies has begun to be dismantled. The management mechanism based on economic accounting and socialist business practices is gradually being established. However, due to mistakes in the implementation of the party's resolution, a complex situation has developed in the fields of finances, money, prices and wages. The 10th Plenum of the Party Central Committee confirmed that the basic spirit and content of the resolution of the 8th Plenum are correct. We must continue to thoroughly implement this resolution. At the same time, we must take the special measures set forth in the conclusion reached by the 10th Plenum of the 5th Party Central Committee concerning prices, wages and money.

Our entire party and all our people must redouble their efforts to accelerate production and practice economy; organize the unimpeded circulation of materials and goods in accordance with the plan; transform and manage the market so that we become the masters of the market; and struggle to achieve price and monetary stability.

Every effort must be made to supply materials for agricultural production (particularly fertilizer and pesticides) and for industrial, small industry and handicraft production (particularly energy, supplies and raw materials). We must take inventory of all materials and materials must be managed exclusively by the state so that they can be distributed in accordance with the plan, with priority given to key enterprises, to key areas. We must make good use of materials. Every effort must be made to accelerate production and achieve increasingly high productivity, quality and efficiency.

The state has a monopoly in foreign trade. The central level manages foreign exchange in accordance with a unified plan. Foreign currency must be used primarily to import supplies and raw materials needed for production.

Priority must be given to importing the materials needed by localities that contribute foreign currency.

We must immediately restore socialist order in distribution and circulation, beginning on the organized market. We must determinedly transform and manage the market. We must harshly punish acts of speculation, black marketing, conspiracy, theft and the sending of goods from the state-operated economy to the outside. The bourgeoisie must be removed from commerce. A certain percentage of small merchants must be shifted to production, to the services, etc.

The state has the exclusive right to do business in grain, strategic materials and a small number of essential consumer goods so that it can meet the reasonable needs of society as permitted by capabilities. The free market in products in which the state has the exclusive right to do business must be abolished. Every form of wholesale trade in materials of the state must be prohibited. Competition in the procurement and sale of products, particularly export goods, must be stopped. We must reorganize and consolidate the stationary joint-sector inspection stations. Roadside guard stations, which result in markets not being held and rivers being closed to traffic, must immediately be dismantled.

As regards prices, the urgent task of the moment is to struggle to stabilize prices, to control prices on the social market and to prevent prices from suddenly rising and being dictated by free market prices. We must maintain the prices of basic materials and the established rational price ratios between agricultural products and industrial materials and goods to insure the development of production and the expansion of procurements on the basis of planning.

To maintain the standard of living of manual workers and civil servants, every effort must be made to stabilize prices on the social market and a number of essential goods must be distributed by appropriate methods.

In the field of finances, we must collect all taxes and other forms of revenue in full and correctly. We must practice strict frugality in spending. Determined steps must be taken to reduce the size of administrative staffs.

The operating procedures of the bank must be changed and improved so that it is convenient for production and business units to borrow capital, cash is closely managed, the turnover of money is accelerated and the use of checks in payment transactions is expanded.

In today's complex situation, our entire party and all our people must strengthen their unity, struggle as hard as they can, accelerate production, practice economy, be the masters of distribution and circulation and bring about a good change in the economy and living conditions. We must build stronger discipline and order within the party and the state apparatus and strictly comply with the resolutions of the party and policies of the state. We must correctly implement the principle of democratic centralism and combat bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies. At the same time, we must combat liberalism and the lack of organization and discipline. Units and individuals

who do good work must be praised and rewarded. Units and individuals who violate the policies of the party and laws of the state must be harshly punished.

By speaking and acting in accordance with the resolution and with our party and people sharing a common will, being united in action and making the greatest possible efforts, we will surely record new economic and social achievements. By focusing our efforts in the correct direction charted by the 10th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, we will surely overcome the difficulties being faced today, gradually stabilize distribution and circulation and continue to advance our country's economy down the path of socialism.

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SATISFACTORILY CARRY OUT IDEOLOGICAL WORK IN PREPARATION FOR THE CPV CONGRESS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 21-29

[Article by Le Duc Tho, member of CPV Central Committee Political Bureau (also published in the 28 July issue of NHAN DAN Newspaper)]

[Text] We are moving toward the 6th CPV Congress at a time when the domestic and international situation is, though employing some basic advantages, revealing many difficulties. The greatest and most pressing difficulty is that the socio-economic situation in our country has yet to be stabilized and there are some aspects which are still complicated and chaotic. Negative phenomena in the party and society are still numerous and are, in some cases, relatively serious. We are also faced with the demand to sum up our work experience over the years, set forth tasks for the period ahead and redistribute cadres, striving to achieve a transition of cadres that will insure continuity and succession in party leadership.

The enemy is seeking ways to undermine our country's revolution day and night. Now they are taking advantage of our difficulties by stepping up their psychological warfare activities—spreading false and incendiary rumors—in order to sow division within our ranks. These difficulties have created feelings of embarrassment and apprehension among many party cadres and members and among the masses. Meanwhile, our ideological work has not yet been given adequate attention as there still exist rightist tendencies and a lack of enthusiasm, dynamism and sharpness.

To prepare for the party congress and to create a new atmosphere in the party and among the people, together with the organizational and other tasks, ideological work holds a very important role and there will be many things to do to enhance political and ideological singleness, make contributions to strengthening party organizations and do away with incorrect conceptions and negative phenomena in the party and society while struggling to oppose the enemy's distorting propaganda allegations.

If we think that difficulties will make the carrying out of the ideological work hard and if this leads to relaxing ideological work, we will make a mistake as we will destroy a sharp weapon for the struggle of the party. The more difficult the situation, the more satisfactorily we will have to carry out ideological work. In doing ideological work, we must successfully grasp

and correctly analyze the actual ideological situation of party cadres and members and the masses.

It is true that among party cadres and members and the masses, along with correct and healthy thoughts, there are also indications of perplexity and concern. Even worse, some have shown skepticism, pessimism and misgivings in the face of difficulties arising in the country's socio-economic life. Affected by this uneasiness, they have reached conflicting conclusions in assessing the situation and adopted different ways of thinking, understanding and doing things regarding a number of issues. Realities show that whenever the revolution is faced with difficulties, conflicting opinions will invariably surface regarding the assessment of the situation. Due to subjective and superficial thinking, some fail to develop an overall view of the situation and place too heavy an emphasis on one aspect or another. Others, shrinking from personal responsibility, fail to be objective in their assessment, speaking guardedly of shortcomings and difficulties while highlighting achievements and strongpoints.

Meanwhile, out of pessimism, some only see difficulties and shortcomings and are driven by their bleak outlook of the situation into disregarding achievements.

Correctly assessing the situation is extremely important in leadership and ideological work. If an assessment is made subjectively, unwisely and carelessly, correct ideological orientations cannot be established. We mention both strongpoints and shortcomings not for the purpose of achieving a balance but in the scientific spirit of correctly observing facts and accurately describing strongpoints and shortcomings. Neither do we neglect to mention achievements and strongpoints, nor fail to look squarely at shortcomings and difficulties. We point out our shortcomings and difficulties in order to correctly evaluate the actual situation, analyze it and try to overcome it rather than to evaluate the situation incorrectly or to create panic and pessimism.

In the past, due to the many complicated problems presented by the objective actual situation and to the limitations of our knowledge and perception, divergent opinions have existed. This is quite normal and easily understandable. In ideological work, we must create an openminded and frank atmosphere for discussion so as to eventually achieve an identity of view and unity in action. To correctly assess the situation and unify opinions we must have correct ideological methods and base ourselves on realities. Reality always remains the criteria of truth. Theories must be compared with reality while, on the other hand, reality must be used to verify concepts.

Take the assessment of the CPV Central Committee's 8th Plenum resolution for example. Different opinions do exist, but we must examine it on the basis of realities. Reality clearly shows that although there remain several points to be supplemented and perfected, the CPV Central Committee's 8th Plenum resolution is basically sound as it points out the way to eliminate bureaucracy and state subsidies and completely shift to the practice of economic accounting and socialist business. This is a major shift in the mechanism of management. To bring about this shift we must simultaneously

enforce a host of measures according to different plans in which numerous influencing factors are taken into account instead of being dismissed; and this must be carried out in a process involving specific steps and without haste.

In directing the settlement of the issue involving prices, wages and money, however, we have failed to take all of these aspects into consideration and have made serious mistakes. In the various localities, while making preparations for party congresses, party committee echelons should fully and correctly evaluate the situation of their own localities and party organizations. It is necessary to adopt an objective attitude and look squarely at reality frankly. Those who are heavily influenced by departmentalistic, parochialistic and individualistic thoughts will assess the situation superficially and inaccurately. Only by accurately assessing the situation will we be able to develop correct viewpoints and orientations for work and create the basis for achieving ideological unity throughout the party.

Our party is approaching its 6th Congress. Every party cadre and member as well as every caring citizen feels responsible toward the party, and the country is concerned about party activities. The greatest concern of everyone is whether the forthcoming congress will be able to set forth appropriate viewpoints and objectives as well as truly effective measures in order to gradually remove the difficulties and bottlenecks that are currently plaguing the socio-economic situation; who will be elected to the party's leadership organs at the central, local and grassroots level, and whether the party will be able to consolidate its contingent of cadres and make it fully capable of resolving the momentous and difficult problems facing the nation and steadily pushing the country forward.

We must admit the reality that there exist at various echelons and in the various sectors many leading cadres who, though having undergone training and trials and although credited with certain meritorious services, are now at an advanced age and physically weak, thereby making it hard for them to discharge their duties.

The aspiration of the majority of party members and people is to renovate the cadre-related work and assign the right cadres to the right places so as to create a new strength and unite and lead the masses in developing strengths, overcoming difficulties and successfully fulfilling the revolutionary objectives and tasks devised by the party. Not only will this have an effect on the future of the country and the revolution, but it is also related to the life of each family and each individual citizen and the future of our children. For this reason, party members and cadres and people throughout the country are extensively discussing various issues regarding policies and personnel of the all-level party congresses. This is a reflection of the sense of responsibility and political awareness of party cadres and members and our people.

We should encourage party cadres and members to contribute their views to party organizations and welcome the people's views on developing the party.

At the same time, we must struggle against slanderous or ill-intentioned allegations of dissatisfied or opportunist elements and even of the enemy.

Ideological work should consist of intensively educating and guiding party cadres and members and people in entertaining correct thoughts and suggesting to the central level practical policies and measures aimed at overcoming difficulties. Moreover, it is necessary to make party cadres and members and people understand that although the country is facing temporary difficulties and although there still are shortcomings in party leadership and state management, we are in a good position to overcome difficulties, improve the situation and take the country to new steps forward.

There are many things to be done in the current ideological task. One of them is to review the criticism and self-criticism tasks and make preparations for and satisfactorily conduct the congresses of all-level party organizations. The satisfactory fulfillment of these tasks will be instrumental in promoting high unanimity of views, devising correct solutions and forming a body of core leading cadres capable of implementing party lines and continuously pushing the revolution forward.

Reviewing past work is a very important measure for unifying views and policies because all major policies of the party originated from facts and met the latter's demands. To be creative, the revolution must be based on a review of facts. The many innovations that we displayed during the struggles against the French, the Americans and the Beijing hegemonist expansionists was due to our reviews of facts.

Reviewing facts will help us develop our dialectical ability and our awareness. It is also a very good method of educating party members and people. Only by going deep into, analyzing and reviewing facts will we have a basis to achieve unanimity of views in evaluating the situation and to set forth policies, measures and tasks. The forthcoming party congress must be able to do this.

Over the past 10 years, our people's revolutionary movement has produced many models. To review models will help us find correct solutions. Product contracts in agriculture were the result of a review of agricultural models.

In southern Vietnam, the task of grouping peasants into production collectives has been basically completed. How are these collectives to be consolidated? How do they advance? To answer these questions, there is no other way but to resort to reviewing the models of these collectives.

In northern Vietnam, the product contract system has been achieved, but in many places people are engaging in a non-specific contract practice. What must be done to perfect the contract system and the cooperative managerial system? What must be done to continue to take the northern rural areas forward?

Does southern Vietnam have any characteristics that are different from those of northern Vietnam in advancing agriculture to large-scale socialist production? In the industrial and communication and transportation sectors,

there have been many experiences in the areas of management, organization and development of production, as well as experiences in joint ventures and business associations. These experiences need to be reviewed as soon as possible.

In distribution and circulation, the model initiated by Ba Thi has been admired by many people and the press. What was her experience? Can that experience be applied only to the conditions of Ho Chi Minh City or also to other localities as well? The Binh Tay Market, various fruit-selling corporations and some establishments in Ho Chi Minh City have recently carried out temporary joint business with bourgeois traders. Is this a correct practice? What is our solution for the days ahead since many places and localities have applied different models?

If we do not review these problems we cannot find correct solutions to them. To review tasks is necessary, but the method is not easy. In reviewing reality, we must search out principled problems, correct conclusions and popular experiences. We must not draw on vague experiences from some models and then disseminate them to other places as some localities do.

Recently, many ministries, sectors, organizations and enterprises claimed that they have reviewed their tasks. However, in reading their recapitulative reports we found that only their achieved tasks, pending tasks and strongpoints and weaknesses were mentioned while no useful conclusions were presented. In some places, they vociferously called for a conference at the end of each year to review tasks. However, conducting a review is not as simple as letting the head of a unit make a resounding report or encouraging some conferees to present their general viewpoints admiring one another while barely mentioning shortcomings to please the unit head. They usually hold a feast at the end of the conference to distribute gifts and make news in newspapers or on television, some even receive commendations and awards. Such a review brings no results, just waste and negative effects.

In the coming party congress, we must realistically carry out a review with more attention and care. In conducting a review, we must be able to correctly analyze the implementation of the party's positions and resolutions, closely evaluate the real situation, distinguish between correct and wrong conclusions regarding various positions and measures and draw on lively and correct experiences and lessons. We must carry out this task with specific aims and must proceed from the lower to the higher levels in order to obtain a perfect result. Practically, at places where unanimous ideas have not been achieved they must pay special attention to reviewing reality. They must determine the proposed ideas based on reality, because no consensus will be reached through arguments.

They must use collective minds to analyze reality with correct methods and thinking. In doing so collective members can integrate their intelligence and reach a correct conclusion even though their backgrounds are limited. One man, though capable in many aspects, cannot see all angles of a problem. This is a requirement in conducting a review. In a letter to various organizations during the preparation for the 9th CPSU Congress in 1920, Lenin wrote: only by carrying out a profound review can we be able to contribute to the party

congress a realistic experience drawn from deliberated thinking, collective labor and the efforts of the entire party membership through their economic building tasks.

Along with reviewing work, we must carry out self-criticism and criticism satisfactorily. Each ministry, each sector and each party committee echelon should, through the reviewing process, assert strongpoints, point out shortcomings, clearly distinguish right from wrong and draw upon lessons of experience; and, on this basis, request individuals to make self-criticism and criticism, including criticism of both higher and lower echelons. Self-criticism and criticism must be conducted comprehensively, specifically and profoundly; and it is necessary to avoid a superficial and general approach. Self-criticism and criticism is the law governing the progress of the party. Recently, with a high sense of responsibility and in the interest of the revolutionary cause of the people and the party, the Political Bureau and the Secretariat have strictly made self-criticism and criticism before the Party Central Committee, clearly pointing out strongpoints; deeply analyzing mistakes and shortcomings regarding leadership, guidance and supervision; and decided on effective remedial measures.

Self-criticism and criticism has also been conducted in a relatively satisfactory manner by the various echelons and sectors. However, it cannot be finished in just one single phase, nor can it solve every problem. To speed up work activities and consolidate the masses' confidence, all echelons and sectors must actively develop strongpoints, correct shortcomings and introduce self-criticism and criticism as a regular feature of party activities.

At present, there still remain some people who are very afraid to make self-criticism and criticism. These very same comrades feared neither imprisonment while carrying out clandestine missions nor sacrifices while fighting on the battlefield. Nevertheless, they have now developed an aversion to self-criticism and criticism. When asked to make criticism, they shrink back into a defensive position and try to avoid the issue in an effort not to offend others. Some people have been driven by personal motives in making self-criticism and criticism, thus depriving this activity of its positive effect. Each of us should sternly examine ourselves to see if we have been influenced by personal motives. With objectivism and impartiality, we will have peace in our hearts. We must base our real lives on testifying to realities without complaining--strong trees never die easily.

Some comrades worry about criticizing others, especially higher echelon comrades for fear of being persecuted, transferred or blocked in promotions. For some reasons, persecution is still prevalent in our party. However, being revolutionists we do not fear such practices. We must frankly and bravely continue our struggle--the only way to overcome negative phenomena. Our party will not accept and will take disciplinary measures against anyone who persecutes those who criticize him. It will criticize those who are reluctant and indulgent, while taking strict measures against those who have ill intentions against criticism and self-criticism, which is detrimental to unity within the party.

Correct criticism and self-criticism will not create grievances between comrades. We must base ourselves on truth and reality in order to persuade our comrades on a long-term basis. It is not easy to persuade those who have made mistakes. We should not turn our backs on these comrades, but must realistically show our love and sympathy to them in order to strengthen unity and advance together.

We must conduct criticism and self-criticism more satisfactorily. Reality shows that satisfactory criticism and self-criticism is an important measure for reaching unanimity in evaluating the situation, determining position and method of work, gradually overcoming negative phenomena in the party, solving worries and concerns of party cadres and members, enhancing the party's strength and consolidating the people's confidence.

In light of the 5th Party Central Committee's 10th Plenum resolution, ideological work in general, and self-criticism and criticism in particular, must contribute actively to improving the class character and militancy of the party and the leading and exemplary role of party members and firmly maintaining the principle of democratic centralism within the party. Only on the basis of democracy can we achieve centralized leadership, and democracy must be placed under centralized leadership. In the party, one has the right to cling to his views. However, one must implement the resolution of a collective. Clinging to one's views does not mean opposing the resolution of a collective.

The strength of our party lies in its sense of organization and discipline. All cadres and party members as well as all echelons and sectors must uphold the sense of organization and discipline to scrupulously implement all party directives and resolutions and must submit to party discipline. They must implement correctly the principle that when a resolution is issued by the party organization, individuals must submit to the collective, the lower echelon must submit to the higher echelon and the entire party must submit to the Party Central Committee.

It is necessary to severely criticize all undemocratic manifestations or manifestations of formalistic democracy while resolutely overcoming such manifestations as doing whatever one likes whenever one pleases, fragmentation, distraction, localism and the failure to firmly preserve democratic centralism in the party. We must realize that it is the lack of democracy and laxity of leadership and discipline that have devitalized the party's militancy.

To satisfactorily prepare for and hold party organization congresses at various levels in anticipation of the National Party Congress, all party committee echelons must do their best to prepare reports on the activities of their sectors and localities. At the same time, they must insure unanimity of views on the disposition of cadres in compliance with the direction of the Party Central Committee Secretariat.

In the past, certain localities resorted to the practice of modifying the Party Central Committee's draft political report with the annexation of some details on their situation to present to the local party organization

congresses as work reports prepared by the local party committee echelons themselves.

This time, all party organizations are asked to review the actual situation in their localities themselves and, on that basis, prepare reports on their work to present to their congresses. They must review the political, economic, cultural and social situation in their localities in every aspect. They must also review the task of simultaneously carrying out the three revolutions in detail and not in general.

We must do the same with self-criticism and criticism. What is the substance of the self-criticism and criticism drive in all provinces, districts, villages, enterprises and organs? This drive must be conducted by all those concerned in a highly specific and clear manner and in accordance with the requirements applied to each sector and echelon.

We must, on the basis of reviewing work and conducting self-criticism and criticism, satisfactorily prepare reports on the work of localities and contribute views to the Party Central Committee's draft political report. While studying the Party Central Committee's draft political report, we should make suggestions for replenishing whatever we deem necessary.

In electing party committee echelons, we must insure the criteria of cadres, especially the criteria concerning their political and ethical quality, work style and capabilities, and ability to unite everybody. At the same time, we must pay attention to the composition of the structure aimed at building a strong collective of leadership that can insure unanimity in terms of views and policies and can display a good work style.

If we elect an organ of leadership whose members do not work in harmony with each other, the cadres of that collective cannot sustain leadership no matter how competent they are.

While holding party congresses at various levels, the higher echelon must send cadres to attend party congresses at the lower level, the Party Central Committee must send cadres to attend party congresses at the provincial level and provinces and districts must send cadres to attend party congresses at the grassroots level.

While attending party congresses at the lower level, representatives from the higher level must not play the role of an important person but must successfully grasp the actual situation in the localities concerned. They must also think about and contribute interesting views to these localities. Only in this way can they help the lower echelons satisfactorily hold their congresses while enabling the higher echelons to grasp the situation at the lower level.

We must select representatives to attend various party congresses carefully and in such a way as to insure that they have the necessary quality to contribute many practical views to these congresses.

This time, party congresses at various levels must change their work methods and avoid ostentatiousness, formalism and waste. They must also concentrate on realistically solving the problems arising from realities in their localities.

In the entire process of the party's ideological work, propaganda and training retain a particularly important position. All propaganda and training organs should manage their activities even more closely in every aspect, especially those related to press and publication.

In the past, there has been a relatively large number of well-written books of memoirs on the revolution which can be used to educate the masses, especially youths and teenagers. But there have also been certain books of memoirs on the revolution which have not been written accurately, thus creating a bad impact in many respects.

The first requirements for writers of history and memoirs are to reflect the truth precisely and objectively, to be able to analyze the application of party policies in actual revolutionary activities, to respect the role of the masses, to be absolutely objective and to prevent individualism from interfering.

The masses are the creators of history. Therefore, the contents of memoirs must provide an impressive description of various heroic collectives and individuals and of the mothers of the many heroes and combatants who have scored great achievements for us, a heroic nation. Of course, this does not mean that we will not speak and write of leadership comrades individually. The questions are when and how the memoirs should be written so they can produce good effects. We must respect the truth of history and must realize the equality of history. We can resort to fiction only when we compose a poem or write a story. But how can we do so when writing history and memoirs? We should especially not resort to fiction under the influence of individualism. When writing history, we may come up with different views. The view of each person is only a personal view. Only through the general view of the collective can we insure accuracy.

The press should write more of the progressive models in the masses--workers, peasants, revolutionary intellectuals, ordinary laborers and those who are fighting for national defense--and should cut down on unnecessary news reports on ceremonious functions--send-off and welcoming ceremonies and receptions.

The press should renovate its operations attitude by refraining from spreading unidirectional propaganda and by telling accurately about those things already done, about strongpoints and about good models. Simultaneously, it should also mention those things which have not been done, shortcomings and weaknesses and should analyze clearly the reasons for these and recommend corrective measures. Only by doing so can the press truly produce good effects and be the worthy propagandist, promoter and organizer of the collective as called by Lenin.

At present there are many negative phenomena. We must criticize and openly publicize in the press a number of typical cases. We must combine conducting

self-criticism and criticism in the internal ranks with conducting open self-criticism and criticism in the press. Or course, we must not publish everything in the press at will. Instead, we must insure careful selection, must weigh the pros and cons carefully and must boldly make public important cases for educational purposes.

We may expand scientific discussions on matters concerning theory and facts. We must encourage scientists to enthusiastically study science, including natural science and social science, and must truly attach importance to those scientific research projects which are useful, are well and meticulously planned and are complete with appropriate suggestions. However, such discussions must have realistic purposes and their conduct must be guided closely. We should not take advantage of discussions to propagate erroneous personal views as this will only further complicate the situation and cause harm to the unity of views.

Some comrades have held that in various localities, there is no story about rightist tendencies developing in the course of carrying out ideological work because everything handed down from higher echelons has been done scrupulously. Is that right? To see if there are any rightist tendencies, we must check to see how self-criticism and criticism, ideological management and cultural and artistic activities have been carried out; whether localities have taken the initiative to bring out shortcomings and weaknesses in order to draw in experience for better implementation or if they have left this to be desired: whether they have struggled positively to prevent and overcome erroneous thoughts and actions among party cadres and members and the masses; and how they have struggled against enemy sabotage propaganda allegations.

To be a sharp and effective weapon, ideological work must be active, realistic and combative and must closely combine theory with practice. The deep penetration of realities is the fundamental question of ideological and political education. Especially in the current situation, ideological work must be directed at those realistic and hot problems arising from the reality of life, must meet the needs and aspirations of the masses and must contribute to resolving those problems regarding the welfare of the masses. To attain good results, ideological work must be carried out in accordance with the motto: One's words must match one's deeds. It is necessary to refrain from talking only about empty theories or from talking one way and acting another.

From now to the coming CPV Congress, the miscreants and the enemy will seek ways to sabotage us ideologically and organizationally. Even worse, they have falsely used other person's names to create fake documents containing distortions and fabrications in order to serve their incendiary sabotage propaganda purposes.

We must, on the one hand, heighten our vigilance, promptly detect and resolutely frustrate all the enemy's distorting propaganda allegations, the spreading of false rumors and other enemy psychological warfare activities; must do away with tendencies to aloofness, to let things drift unnoticed and to relax efforts in the struggle against the sabotage propaganda of the miscreants and the enemy; and must, on the other hand, comply scrupulously with all the regulations governing the circulation and storing of party

documents with a determination not to allow the miscreants and the enemy to exploit them.

Looking back over our ideological work of the past few decades, we have attained many good results successfully improving the theoretical skills and knowledge of party cadres and members in each revolutionary stage; teaching patriotism and proletarian internationalism; and motivating millions of party cadres and members to volunteer to go for combat and public missions, to perform satisfactorily the national and democratic revolution, to build socialism, and to defend the fatherland.

We have also, however, noted that ideological work has at times been derailed in one aspect or another. When carrying out reeducation, we have committed a mistake by carrying out individual criticism without linking this with the implementation of the political tasks. Later on, we at times relaxed self-criticism and criticism, failed to link criticism for the implementation of political tasks with criticism for qualities and lifestyle, or criticized perfunctorily and generally. At one time we tended to regard ideology as the leading work of Maoist style and at another time regarded technology as a decisive factor, belittling ideological and spiritual factors.

As the knowledge of the masses has now been improved in various aspects, they demand that our cadres and party members be fully endowed with quality and ability and be worthy of being both leaders and faithful servants of the people.

Let our entire party strive to make its 6th Congress a great success. With a high degree of unanimity in terms of ideology and organization, it is certain that we will be able to gradually overcome the present difficulties, thus advancing our revolution to new, more beautiful and glorious stages of development.

CSO: 4210/12

ON THE INITIAL PERIOD OF A PEOPLE'S WAR TO DEFEND THE FATHERLAND

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 30-35

[Article by Senior General Hoang Van Thai]

[Text] As we know, every war, be it short or long--whether it lasts for 5 to 7 days or for decades--has a beginning and an end. The initial period of a war is an extremely important period.

In the past 5,000 years, there have been nearly 15,000 wars on our planet, some large, some small. And, in virtually every war, the two sides focused their efforts on solving, in accordance with their strategy, the problems related to the initial period of the war because this is an extremely important period, one which can determine the entire course and outcome of the war.

However, it was not until the middle of the 20th Century, particularly during the years of World War II, when military science and technology reached new stages of development, equipment and weapons became increasingly modern and first-strike capabilities grew larger, that the role and importance of the initial period in a war increased markedly in both preparations for and the actual conduct of the war as well as in the fields of theoretical research and military science and art in many countries, in our country as well as our enemy's.

In the past 50 years, world military history has provided us with many very valuable lessons and experiences—all learned and drawn as a result of much bloodshed, as a result of correctly or incorrectly perceiving the problems associated with the initial period in a war and handling these problems well or poorly.

In World War II (1941-1945), under theories on a "total war," "blitzkrieg war," "mechanized war," "massive surprise attack" and so forth, Hitler's fascists launched surprise attacks on many countries during the first days of their war of aggression against these countries and, depending upon the potentials and preparations made by each of these countries, won varying degrees of victory. For example, they launched surprise strategic air raids on more than 70 airfields in France, Belgium and Holland, more than 20 airfields in Poland and many other important targets in these countries, as a

result of which France lost nearly 300 aircraft in only 2 days and Poland was quickly annexed by the fascists.

In the case of the Soviet Union, as retold by our Soviet comrades, the Hitlerites used several thousand aircraft in massive surprise attacks on airfields and air defense facilities, on cities, railroad stations, bridges and ferries, on troop areas and command posts in the military regions along the western border, penetrating Soviet territory to a depth of 400 to 500 kilometers. This inflicted very heavy losses on the Soviet Union from the standpoint of air, ground and air defense forces, and disrupted rail and highways transportation. Along with this strategic air attack, hundreds of German mechanized infantry and tank divisions, having quickly penetrated deep into Soviet territory, posed major difficulties to the Soviet Union in its effort to organize defenses, protect the people and defend national defense, economic and cultural installations as well as in mobilizing and deploying military corps and army groups, particularly in zones near the border, and disrupting the entire economy of these important areas.

The Israeli-Egyptian war (June 1967) provided us with another valuable lesson in perceiving and dealing with the problems associated with the initial period of a war. Employing a very large air force, the Israelis launched a massive surprise attack--opening the war of aggression against Egypt--on nearly 20 airfields and immediately destroyed nearly 400 aircraft, thereby preventing Egypt from making any significant response throughout the first hour of the war. At the same time, they mobilized forces very quickly and rapidly deployed ground forces to the bank of the Suez Canal. And, as we saw, this war concluded in the favor of the aggressors only 1 week later.

Even in our country, in the war of liberation, both we and the enemy sought every way to resolve, in a way consistent with each side's strategy, the problems faced before the war and during the initial period of the war. For example, in August 1945, after winning political power, we immediately had to deal with two enemies at either end of the country. From the very outset, the French wanted to "strike quickly and win victory quickly" in order to quickly become the ruler of our entire country again. We signed the 6 March 1946 Preliminary Agreement to remove Chiang Kai-shek from the situation so that efforts could be focused on dealing with one enemy, the French colonialists. Then, we signed the 14 September 1946 Modus Vivendi to gain time to prepare for the war of resistance. In December 1946, when we saw that the enemy wanted to widen the war to the entire country, we decided to launch the national war of resistance. Thus, through the very effective strategy of "progress through conciliation" adopted by President Ho and the Standing Committee of the Party Central Committee, our people gained more than 1 year of time to prepare the country before embarking on the initial period of the war. In the war of resistance against the United States, before the United States rushed troops to the South and unleashed air and naval attacks on the North, we launched local uprisings and were waging a revolutionary war in the South while restoring and developing the economy, building up the army and making all the necessary preparations in the North, including the preparation of forces to go to the South. When the United States began sending troops into the South and attacking the North, we were not taken by surprise because we had a correct understanding of the situation and had made good

preparations. When the U.S. imperialists intensified and widened the war--due to many different reasons, they had to fight and escalate the war at the same time--we were able to fight them while building and gradually developing our forces... Thus, by the time we entered the initial period of the resistance against the United States nationwide, we had more than 10 years to make preparations, preparations that were made with an increasing sense of urgency as the start of the war approached. And, thus, it is clear that, in the war of liberation, despite our limitations and those of the enemy, we managed to prepare the country thoroughly. As a result, in both the resistance against France and the resistance against the United States, the enemy was unable to carry out their "strike quickly and win victory quickly" strategy. We, on the other hand, were not taken by surprise and were able to maintain the strategic initiative when entering the initial period of the war, which created very important conditions for the development of the revolutionary war.

Today, one of the major features of the military field is that military science and technology, military equipment and weapons have reached a very modern level of development. The destructive power and the killing power of bombs and shells are large. In particular, the means of transporting troops and weapons (such as aircraft, war ships, tanks, missiles and cannons) are long range. As a result, the opening blow by an aggressor in a war can be stronger, broader in scope and more unexpected than ever before. With air and naval superiority, an aggressor can launch surprise air attacks, advance forces by land, carry out airborne or seaborne landings and attack the front, rear and flanks, attack leadership and command centers, communication and transportation centers, industrial centers and population centers at the same time in an attempt to paralyze and disrupt the rear area of the opposition during the very first minutes of the war. Consequently, today, every country that seeks to defend itself well must make preparations in peace time for war time. When an aggressor cannot employ the factor of surprise, we cannot be taken by surprise. And, the only way to achieve this is to make preparations in advance, make preparations in every field so that we are ready to immediately retaliate, ready to defeat the enemy as soon as they launch their opening strike.

We must always remember Lenin's teaching concerning communist parties and the proletarian revolution: "A revolution is only of value when it can defend itself." (1) Self-defense, of course, requires preparation, requires readiness, requires never relaxing one's vigilance, never being taken by surprise. Rather, we must take and always maintain the initiative in order to win the largest possible victory from the very start of the war.

Today, one of the universal laws of the socialist revolution in every country is that socialist construction must be closely tied to defending the socialist fatherland. Consequently, even in peace time, full importance must be attached to defending the socialist fatherland. Moreover, serious thought must be given to and every effort must be made to prepare for a people's war to defend the fatherland.

In our country, due to Vietnam's geography and strategic position, there is an even closer link between building and defending the fatherland. Our nation, after winning victory over the U.S. pirate aggressors, after winning

independence for the fatherland and reunifying the fatherland, immediately had to directly deal with the open, brazen and cunning policy of hostility of the reactionaries within Chinese ruling circles, whose expansionist army operates on the mainland, in the air space and in the offshore waters that abut ours. In actuality, during the past 10 years, they took us by surprise in very bold, large-scale wars of aggression at either end of our country in which they committed countless crimes against our people. Since then, they have devoted extensive efforts to a wide-ranging war of sabotage and a border war of encroachment and occupation while constantly threatening to "teach" us a "second lesson" by means of a large-scale war of aggression against our country.

In the face of such a special situation, it is even more necessary for us to recall and resolutely put into practice the teaching of the great Uncle Ho: "Be it peace time or time of war, we must take the initiative, must look ahead and prepare in advance." (2)

The large-scale war of aggression that the enemy threatens to carry out against our country would be an unjust war. The war that we plan to fight to combat this war of aggression, should the enemy recklessly unleash such a war, is a just war, a war of self-defense, a war to defend the socialist fatherland, a revolutionary war, a full-scale war fought by all the people, a modern war, a war based on an alliance of forces.

Compared to the wars of liberation (such as the war of resistance against France, the war of resistance against the United States...), this war, beside sharing certain similarities such as being a full-scale people's war led by the party, differs in many ways in terms of whom we are fighting, targets, forces and mode of warfare, with the largest and most evident differences being in the matters related to the initial period in the war.

In a war to defend the fatherland, in contrast to a war of liberation, we must fight an enemy who suddenly attacks our country from the outside. And, from the very start of the war, we must and can immediately retaliate against their opening attacks in order to wipe out large numbers of enemy forces while determinedly defending our land and territory, protecting the people, protecting economic and cultural projects and protecting the gains of our revolution.

To accomplish this, we cannot move ahead one step at a time during the initial period of the war, cannot advance from small to large-scale attacks on the enemy, from scattered guerrilla attacks to concerted conventional attacks as we did in the war of liberation but must, from the very start, mount large, medium and small-scale attacks on the enemy through the local people's war and the war fought by the main force military corps and conduct, through powerful stationary forces and large mobile forces, widespread strategic combat operations and simultaneous or successive combined force campaigns along with many large and small battles being continuously fought everywhere. Here, one factor that differs completely from the war of liberation is the need to mobilize, during the very first days of the war, large, fully manned, strategic military corps that can be assembled quickly, are highly mobile and are equipped with modern weapons, together with combat ready standing forces,

in order to promptly retaliate against the forces of the aggressor--their ground, air and naval forces--over a broad expanse of territory--possibly over many different battlefields--and in alliance with our friends on the battlefields of all three countries of Indochina, on land, in the air and at sea, beginning on the frontline and areas of decisive strategic importance.

Thus, it is clear that the initial period of a people's war to defend the socialist fatherland is an objective reality that we must perceive and deal with correctly. Not knowing that this period exists or knowing but not making thorough preparations for it are a serious mistake and will lead to heavy, incalculable losses.

This is a new element in our military line, military science and military art in the period of building and defending the socialist fatherland. It also places a new requirement upon our entire party, all our people and all our armed forces in terms of their perception, their viewpoint and their organizational efforts in preparing for and conducting a people's war to defend the socialist fatherland.

It can be said that to correctly understand the role and position of the initial period of the war and correctly resolve the key problems related to this initial period are to know and apply one of the most important laws of a war to defend the fatherland under modern conditions and to know how to insure victory at the very outset and how to continue to win victories in the course of a people's war to defend the socialist fatherland and bring this war to a victorious conclusion.

As mentioned above, today, whereas the course and outcome of a war are dependent, to a large degree, upon the results achieved in the initial period of the war, the size of the victories won and the extent of losses are mainly dependent upon the results of the efforts made in peace time to prepare the country to fight aggression.

The failure to make preparations or made adequate preparations in peace time will have major consequences not only upon the initial period of a war, but also upon the entire course and outcome of the war.

Therefore, preparing the country to fight aggression is a vital strategic task, a pressing and constant task of the entire party, all the people and all the armed forces, of the entire proletarian dictatorship system. This task must be closely combined with the process of socialist transformation and socialist construction; with the process of carrying out their three revolutions: the production relations revolution, the scientific-technological revolution and the cultural-ideological revolution; with the process of building the new system, building the new economy, establishing the new culture and molding the new man; with the process of constantly strengthening the proletarian dictatorship state and developing the strength of socialist collective ownership exercised by the laboring people to defeat the enemy's border war of encroachment and occupation and their wide-ranging war of sabotage.

Preparing the country to fight aggression requires that we know how to effectively combine preparations for pressing, immediate jobs with preparations based on constant, long-range requirements; combine comprehensive, well coordinated preparations with preparations that focus on a central, key factor; and closely combine preparations by the entire army, the entire state and all the people, military, political, spiritual and economic preparations, preparations for organizing and mobilizing forces, preparations in terms of establishing and perfecting our battlefield deployment...

Preparing the country throughout the period of peace time construction to fight aggression also entails effectively preparing to mobilize all the people to arise in a war of resistance and preparing to put the entire country on a war time footing when the enemy is about to launch or has begun to launch a war of aggression.

Organizing all the people in a war of resistance and putting the country on a war time footing entail a widespread, comprehensive, nationwide political, military, economic, cultural-ideological and scientific-technical campaign conducted throughout the party, among all the people and among all the armed forces. The purposes of this campaign are to insure that, from the very first moments of the war, we maintain the strategic initiative militarily, politically and diplomatically; promptly put the armed forces in a war posture; shift the entire national economy to production in support of the war to defend the country and in support of the people's welfare; and rapidly shift the whole of social life to a regimen that conforms with the laws of war.

In view of the wholly violent character and vast scale of modern warfare, in view of the new and very high requirements involved in defending the socialist fatherland and in view of the large amount of complex work related to the initial period in a war--as we have already seen--all of us, the entire party, all the armed forces and all the people, all sectors within the proletarian dictatorship system on the central, local and basic levels, on the front and in the rear, on the frontline and in the hinterland, along the seacoast and in the mountains, in the North, in central Vietnam and in the South...must plan for every complex situation that might occur during the initial period of a war and must soon begin working together, with the fullest possible spirit of responsibility and in a very serious attitude, to prepare the country to fight aggression. Of course, planning for every eventuality in the initial period of a war does not mean failing to plan for all the changes that might occur throughout the course of the war so that the necessary preparations can be made. This objective reality makes it even more necessary for us to have a thorough understanding of both strategic tasks and know how to fuse the two strategic tasks of building and defending the fatherland, how to closely combine the economy with national defense, national defense with the economy. It makes it even more necessary for us to resolve both basic and pressing problems to insure that the economy is prosperous and strong and that our national defense is solid and dependable.

Our nation of Vietnam is a nation that has a very deep love of peace and desires to maintain peace in order to devote its efforts to building a prosperous and strong country, building a comfortable, civilized and happy

life amidst independence, freedom and socialism. At the same time, our nation always upholds the great thinking of our times that "there is nothing more precious than independence and freedom," is very experienced in fighting foreign aggression and possesses the military bearing of an heroic, unyielding nation. Through the brilliant victories of the August Revolution, the resistance against France and the resistance against the United States, our nation joined the ranks of the nations in the vanguard of the fight against imperialism. Today, in the cause of building and defending the socialist fatherland, each Vietnamese, most importantly each of our cadres and party members, must maintain and build upon this precious tradition so that we continue to win glorious victories in the cause of building and defending the socialist fatherland.

FOOTNOTES

1. V.I. Lenin: "Collected Works," Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1978, Volume 37, p 145.
2. Ho Chi Minh: "Chien tranh nhan dan Viet nam," [Vietnam's People's War], Quan Doi Nhan Dan Publishing House, Hanoi, 1980, p 334.

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THE ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF LABOR AT BASIC ECONOMIC UNITS

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 36-43, 63

[Article by Dao Thien Thi]

[Text] Economic management and enterprise management encompass many areas: the management of plans, technical management, the management of supplies, financial management, labor management, etc. Among these, labor management is of very important significance. Labor is a factor in all these areas of management. Good labor management is a prerequisite to good management of supplies, good technical management, good financial management and so forth. It is the worker who formulates and implements plans, who produces and uses materials and energy, who maintains and operates machinery and equipment... Organizing and managing labor by means of specific forms and measures designed to tap the spirit of collective ownership of each person, from the enterprise director to the various production sections and units, the functional offices and sections and each worker, are the good organization and management of labor and have a direct and strong impact upon all other areas of management. Therefore, the mechanism by which labor is organized and managed is an important, indispensable structural component of the economic management and enterprise management mechanism, one that cannot be given light attention.

Organizing labor and managing labor are not only administrative work or personnel work, nor do they simply have the purpose of satisfying the limited and immediate interests of the worker. Every enterprise is part of the division of social labor. The mechanism that the enterprise uses to organize and manage its labor must be designed to fully develop the role played by the rights and obligations of collective ownership of each person, from the labor manager to the worker, in order to discover and make full use of each potential of the basic unit, practice thorough economy, work in a dynamic and creative manner with the lowest possible costs and high productivity, quality and efficiency, complete the task assigned under the state plan and serve the interests of the country as best possible, which include the interests of the enterprise, of each component and each worker.

The mechanism by which labor is organized and managed consists primarily of the following:

1. Labor Planning

The labor plan is an integral part of the unified production-technical-financial-social plan of the enterprise. The enterprise formulates its labor plan on the basis of the production-business task assigned under its plan, on the basis of labor quotas, work time and so forth. Enterprises that have a labor plan must use the amount of labor currently employed as the starting point in the formulation of the production-technical-financial-social plan of the enterprise. As long as one person does not have a job, the effort to find jobs must continue so that labor is being utilized in a way that is rational. This is the latest viewpoint concerning the formulation of the labor plan at basic units. This view stems from the requirement and responsibility of insuring that every person who is able to work has the right to a job and an obligation to work, that no person is without a job or receives income from something other than labor, other than in accordance with labor. This is compliance, in the practical sense, with the principle of formulating plans from the basic level upward with the aims of fully developing each supply potential of the basic unit and establishing balance between supply capabilities and needs in all areas, beginning at the basic unit. This view is also based on the purpose of guaranteeing the autonomy of the basic unit in production and business, namely, having the basic unit join with the state in vigorously developing the strengths of the entire country as well as each locality, especially each basic unit, by making the greatest possible use of all labor and raw materials and expressing, as clearly as possible, the special principle of socialism, the principle of democratic centralism in management, thereby maintaining the unity of the socialist economy while upholding the rights and obligations of collective ownership of the basic economic unit.

2. The Hiring of Labor

The enterprise has many job positions. The standards of the workers in each position must be consistent with the requirements of their task. The enterprise must hire workers who possess the necessary knowledge and skills, the sense of organization and discipline, the spirit of responsibility and good work methods.

—On the basis of a carefully calculated labor plan, the enterprise has the authority to decide to hire labor to establish a labor force that is rationally structured from the standpoint of male and female workers, age groups, occupations, specialized standards, technical skills, professional standards and the health of each type worker in accordance with the requirements of production and business. The enterprise itself announces its labor needs and selects whom to hire. The enterprise can also sign a contract with the local labor agency to have the agency select or introduce persons to the enterprise for it to consider for hiring. The enterprise has the authority to refuse to accept persons introduced by any place for which the enterprise does not have a need. The purpose here is to correct the problem of the number of workers employed rising uncontrollably as a result of being forced to accept labor, as a result of assigning and utilizing labor in a haphazard manner, in sectors and trade for which workers were not trained...

The enterprise has the obligation of complying with the state policy on the management of the labor pool. With difficulties still being encountered in supplying grain and food and a shortage of jobs existing in the municipalities and cities, the state is redistributing labor and population on a nationwide scale and within each locality. Every enterprise must voluntarily contribute along with the state to resolving this situation by hiring labor within the areas and from the pool of persons stipulated by the state and locality. Generally speaking, enterprises located in municipalities and cities must not go about hiring agricultural labor in a manner that suits convenience, thereby increasing the size of the non-agricultural population and increasing the burden on the national economy.

The enterprise has the obligation of implementing the policy of the party and state of giving priority in its hiring of labor to the families of war dead, families who have served the revolution and wounded veterans and accepting in appropriate jobs persons who can meet the basis requirements of production and business. In traditional trades that demand technical skills, such as mining, forestry, mechanical engineering, sculpting, model making and so forth, priority must be given to hiring the children of workers in order to establish a corps of workers that spans many generations, a corps in which skills are handed down from father to son. If an enterprise has an indispensable need for a highly skilled worker or a worker in a high grade (welder, refrigeration mechanic, crane operator and so forth) but such a worker is not available within the district, precinct, province or municipality, this worker must be hired in a different locality. The worker has the right to ask to quit his job in the cases of being sent to specialized schools of the state or encountering personal difficulties that the enterprise cannot help him to resolve. The enterprise has the right to fire workers in the cases of having to reduce the scope of its product line or disbanding the enterprise, after making an exhaustive effort but not being able to find other jobs for these workers. These rights are concretized in the current regulations of the state. It is necessary to emphasize the obligation that the enterprise has to workers who must be fired when it becomes necessary to reduce the scope of the enterprise's main production task. Most importantly, each enterprise must take the initiative and look for every area in which labor is needed to provide suitable jobs to workers who are displaced from main production lines. In the labor and population redistribution plan of the locality, the labor agency has the responsibility of helping enterprises to redistribute labor from places where there is a surplus to places where there is a shortage or from the state-operated sector to the collective sector. In the cases in which it is temporarily not possible to provide persons with jobs in the trades for which they were trained, the enterprise must reluctantly fire these persons so that they can look for work. However, the enterprise must pay them an appropriate allowance so that they do not suffer any personal losses and a burden is not placed upon society. It is also necessary to emphasize the obligation that the worker has to the enterprise when the worker volunteers to work at a remote place where living and working conditions are not good. There are still many areas in our country that have rich natural resources. However, these resources are not being fully developed. Labor must be drawn to these areas from densely populated areas. This serves both the highest interests of the country and its long-range future. At present, we still face difficulties. However, the state cannot simply rely upon psychological

motivation, particularly in the case of youths, but must also make many efforts to apply necessary economic measures, such as subsidies in addition to wages and other benefits...

A progressive approach that must be tried on a pilot project basis and gradually expanded is the use of contract labor. This system is based on labor performed voluntarily, consciously and of one's free will, based on the requirement that there be absolute unity between rights and obligations, between responsibility and authority. The employer and the worker discuss what needs to be done as equals, reach agreement and make commitments to each other on the basis of conditions advanced by each. The enterprise director must take into consideration the nature of and the amount of time needed for each job in order to determine which jobs require a long-term contract and which a short-term contract (1, 2 or 3 years) or a temporary, seasonal contract. Persons are not automatically hired to a "lifetime" position as was the rigid practice in previous years. Contracts can be signed with all types of labor (general labor, technically skilled labor, engineers and specialized, professional cadres). In the case of specific jobs that take only several days to one-half month to complete, the two sides can enter into a "verbal contract." Generally speaking, written contracts should be used in all other cases. The terms set forth in the labor contract encourage the employer and the worker to exercise their rights and fulfill their obligations to the other side for the sake of the common interests of the country. Once the state has widely applied the labor contract policy, this policy can be implemented at remote places, including for persons going to these places in fulfillment of their labor obligation. Because this is something new, the state must conduct a pilot project in 1986 to gain experience.

3. Organizing Labor in a Rational Way

The purpose of the organization of labor is to put labor on a regular basis, thereby helping to raise labor productivity. Because their management has been based on state subsidies, very many enterprises have not concerned themselves with perfecting each aspect of the organization of labor and have not fully realized the importance and significance of the organization of labor in management as a whole or the specifics involved in organizing labor. In more than a few cases, the hourly productivity of the individual worker is not very low but the daily, monthly and yearly productivity of the worker, especially the productivity of the entire enterprise or sector, are very low. This is due not only to the worker, but also partly to the organization of labor and the management of production. Today, as we institute economic accounting and socialist business practices, the enterprise has the conditions needed to correct this problem. Because, generally speaking, organizing labor in a way that is rational does not cost much but does yield returns quickly and, in some cases, also yields good returns for technical investments. The primary purpose of organizing labor in a rational way is to make good use of equipment and machine capacity and the labor force in order to increase output and achieve high productivity, quality and efficiency. The organizing of labor at basic economic units consists of establishing a division of labor and assigning jobs to labor in accordance with job titles, standards and the sectors and trades for which labor has been trained; establishing cooperation in labor on the basis of a balanced ratio between one group of production

workers and another, between primary workers and assistants, between workers and the management apparatus; adopting rational and progressive work methods, methods which guarantee high quality, high productivity and high efficiency; maintaining labor discipline; establishing labor quotas; adopting various forms of piecework wages and material and psychological incentives; adopting plans to provide training and improve the manual skills of labor in production and work; adopting a labor protection and technical safety policy and improving working conditions; organizing a socialist emulation movement; preparing production conditions well and supporting each work place well. Organizing labor entails a system of measures designed to develop and make good use of the potentials that lie in labor and make the fullest possible use of production facilities in a way that guarantees an increase in the labor productivity of each person, each worker collective and the entire enterprise.

Each measure entails separate requirements and factors that must be researched in detail as specialized scientific subjects so that they can be gradually applied in a manner consistent with the characteristics of each enterprise in the different economic and technical sectors. The state guides the organizing of labor primarily by means of models and suggestions. Which forms and methods of organizing labor are most effective and which should be applied are determined entirely by the enterprise.

It must be emphasized that organizing labor in sections and units is especially important in production. This form of organization must be expanded in practically all sectors, such as capital construction, agriculture, fishing, industry and so forth. Above everything else, it is well suited to the organizing of production by objective, organizing many persons in the production of one product. We can consider this an important program in the struggle to increase the activism of the worker in his social activism. In tightly organized production sections and units, the new socialist qualities and the relations of friendship and mutual assistance among workers are easily formed. In labor and social activities, each person has a responsibility to the collective and the collective has a responsibility to each person.

4. Providing Training and Improving the Skills of Workers and Cadres in Production and Work

The cultural, scientific and technical standards of each person, the skill level of the worker and the specialized and professional standards of management cadres and personnel play a decisive role in product quality and the quality of work. The worker has the right and obligation to constantly improve his skills and raise his standards in his specialized field. The enterprise has the right and obligation to establish a plan, fund and program for providing training and raising the standards of the worker, particularly young workers, in order to meet the qualitative requirements of production and business better with each passing day. In addition to organizing training at the enterprise after work hours, the enterprise can also sign contracts with trade training schools, colleges and vocational middle schools, assume training costs and take back the persons sent to these schools for training. Through skill training and skilled worker testing movements, the enterprise should periodically inspect the skills of and recertify workers, cadres and

personnel in light of the requirements of their job grade and the requirements of production. It is necessary to gradually "intellectualize" the corps of cadres and workers, especially at enterprise that have modern machinery, equipment and production technology. Retraining must be promptly provided whenever a new occupation emerges or whenever jobs are changed, especially in the case of workers and cadres who were assigned to jobs in sectors and trades for which they were not trained and whom it has not been possible to reassign to another job.

5. Setting Well Based, Rational and Progressive Labor Quotas

In economic accounting and socialist business practices, economic-technical quotas, in general, and labor quotas, in particular, occupy a position of key importance. These quotas must reflect the average amount of social labor that need be expended and provide the enterprise with a solid base from which to calculate costs, organize labor, assign jobs to and pay manual workers and civil servants, calculate profit and loss... At present, we have state quotas and sector quotas for a number of jobs. The enterprise has the responsibility of organizing the implementation of these quotas and helping to augment them and make them more complete. However, the number of these quotas is still small. The state and the sectors will continue to formulate and issue quotas or standards for universal jobs that are not now governed by quotas. In the immediate future, in addition to applying existing state quotas and sector quotas, each enterprise must formulate quotas by the methods in which it is instructed by the upper level and in accordance with its own organizational and technical conditions. In the production-business process and on the basis of newly discovered reserves and new advances in management, in the organization of production and labor, in the technical and industrial sciences of the enterprise, the enterprise director and the collective of workers must re-examine their labor quotas and rationally adjust them in the direction of endeavoring to raise labor productivity, reduce production costs and meet and exceed the productivity of the sector and society. In each job and stage of work and on the basis of the quotas originally set, the enterprise also calculates labor quotas for production in order to formulate the labor plan portion of the system of the enterprise's production-technical-financial-social plan.

6. Wages, Material Incentives and the Implementation of the Principle of Distribution in Accordance with Labor

Concern for the material interests of the individual worker is an important force stimulating the development of the economy, the development of production. The personal interests of the producer cannot be satisfied if the efficiency of the entire system of social production is low, if the production-business activities of the collective do not produce high results and if the enterprise does not complete its state plan well. Therefore, it is necessary to thoroughly implement the basic principle of socialist distribution, distribution in accordance with labor. The wages and income of each person as well as those of each collective are dependent upon the quantity and quality of labor contributed by each person and each collective to society. The wage fund and the realized profits of every enterprise must

be closely tied to the returns from the enterprise's production and business, must be dependent upon the percentage of the assigned plan that is completed.

The first thing that the enterprise must do is compute the wage plan portion of its system of production-technical-financial-social plans on the basis of the standard wage policy of the state, the ceiling on the size of the management staff, labor quotas and job grades. The enterprise director has the authority to select an appropriate form of piecework wages to be paid at each work place and for each stage of production. Here, importance must be attached to correctly applying contract wages and collective piecework wages based on the final results of production. He has the authority to decide the salary and wage scale for the cadres, manual workers and civil servants under his management in accordance with the technical grade standards and professional standards of the state. The enterprise director also decides and inspects the distribution of wages and the various types of bonuses and decides the ration standards that apply in the sale of products at directed prices to manual workers and civil servants in accordance with the quantity and quality of labor contributed by each person and each collective to the final production results of the enterprise. The grain and commerce agencies must provide a full and timely supply of the products stipulated by the state to be sold in accordance with ration standards and at directed prices to manual workers and civil servants. The bank must insure that the enterprise is able to withdraw money deposited in the bank or borrow money in amounts determined by the percentage of its plan completed for the purpose of paying workers and civil servants on time. The enterprise director must insure that the worker is paid his full wage and paid on time.

The enterprise director has the obligation of complying with the bookkeeping and statistical-reporting policies of the state concerning labor and wages and presenting to the authorized level for its evaluation, approval and inspection the planned ceiling on labor and wage costs per product and the wage fund based on the ceiling on the size of the labor force. He must attach importance to organizing accounting and the analysis of the use and management of labor and wages within the various sections, units and shops and within the enterprise as a whole. The director and the enterprise trade union must manage the social insurance fund and make full payments from this fund on time. At the same time, they must manage the social insurance services for the worker within the unit and correctly implement the retirement and disability leave policies for those persons who fully qualify. In the case of skilled technical workers who have reached retirement age but are still in good health, are still making good contributions and are still needed by the enterprise, it should only be suggested that they retire when requested by an interested party.

7. Improving Working Conditions, Establishing Technical Safety and Protecting the Worker

Working conditions, sanitation conditions and worker safety control the health of the worker and his ability to perform his job to a large degree. The enterprise has the obligation of strictly complying with technical safety codes, labor sanitation and safety rules and the regulations on the protection of labor that have been issued by the state and must always concern itself

with improving working conditions at work places, beginning at places where the work is strenuous, hot and involves toxic substances. It is necessary to effectively prevent the causes of poor working conditions and a poor work environment; adopt plans for building hygiene facilities to prevent occupational diseases and purchasing an adequate supply of personal safety equipment; and fully comply with regulations prohibiting the use of female workers and minors on jobs that are especially strenuous and hazardous, and prohibiting anyone from making a worker work around the clock, work an excessive amount of overtime and causing harm to the worker's health. All cadres and workers must be given an understanding of and taught to comply with regulations and rules on labor hygiene and safety, the protection of the environment and the prevention of accidents on the job. In cases in which the failure to respect the law on protecting labor, on labor safety and technical safety leads to serious harm to the health of the worker and serious damage to national property, culpability must be clearly determined and responsible persons must be harshly prosecuted. State agencies and trade union organizations have the right and responsibility to intensify their inspections, their investigation and control of the performance of this work at enterprises and should not consider this to be intervening too deeply in the internal affairs of the enterprise.

8. Upholding Labor Discipline

Labor discipline is an exceedingly important factor of production and labor. One of the primary subjective causes of unnecessary losses, of the waste of work time at many basic units today is violations of labor discipline.

Our discipline is self-imposed discipline. The worker plays the decisive role in our discipline. The enterprise must insure that there is enough work for the worker to work continuously. It must gradually perfect its internal labor regulations and gradually establish strict quotas. It must assign specific tasks and responsibilities. It must praise and appropriately reward persons who respect labor discipline and complete their task in an excellent fashion. It must criticize and harshly deal with phenomena that reflect a lack of discipline. The collective of workers must strongly denounce in public persons who are very backward, are lazy, are irresponsible toward their work, are arrogant toward customers, violate socialist property and cause harm to their unit or an associated unit but do not express regret or rectify their mistake. After ascertaining the opinions of the Discipline Council, the enterprise must take appropriate disciplinary action. In necessary cases, the concerned person must be fired from his job at the enterprise. The right and obligation of the enterprise is to wage a determined struggle against everything that reflects a violation of the Code of Discipline so that everyone does better work and contributes much more to society.

9. Socialist Emulation

The economic value of socialist emulation stems first from the fact that it taps the creativity of the individual worker and, through the public comparison of emulation achievements and the widespread application of advanced experiences, turns the experience of one person or one group into the common asset of each person with the aim of achieving higher social labor

productivity. Therefore, it is necessary to analyze, introduce and, more importantly, adopt plans for organizing the widespread application of the good experiences of advanced labor models, emulation warriors and labor heroes within and outside the enterprise. This is a virtually inexhaustible potential. The significance of socialist emulation as an important general factor in the socialist organization of labor lies herein.

10. Increasing the Role of the Collective of Workers

The manual workers and civil servants of every enterprise form a social community of persons who are closely tied to one another by the results of their common labor, persons who cooperate in the process of working to achieve common objectives for the sake of the interests of socialism, the interests of the country, which include the interests of the collective and each person. The rights and obligations of collective ownership must be exercised and discharged most fully within the collectives of workers. There is the collective of workers of the entire enterprise and the collective of workers of each component, such as the production section and units, the shops and the functional offices and departments. Direct democracy is practiced most fully and easily within the collective of workers (the production sections and units) and through conferences of all the manual workers and civil servants of the enterprise. The collectives of workers have the right and obligation to actively participate in all decisions concerning the organization and management of labor within the basic economic units. When participating in the formulation of the production-technical-financial-social plans of the enterprise, the collective of workers has the right and obligation to discover potentials in order to develop production, practice economy, insure that everyone has adequate work, make full use of work time, make full use of machinery and equipment capacity...

The collective of workers (production section or unit) has the right to select the members and leader of its unit. The enterprise must survey the opinions of the collective of workers (the production section or unit) when transferring new persons to the collective. They have the right to elect and suggest that the enterprise appoint or remove the section or unit chief. They have the right not to accept persons who have been educated many times but still fail to rectify serious shortcomings and mistakes. The collective of workers has the right and obligation to regularly practice self-criticism and criticism. It has the right and obligation to contribute opinions concerning the selection, assignment and utilization of cadres, manual workers and civil servants, the application of the policy regarding awards and penalties and the assignment of jobs to workers displaced from production lines and primary jobs. It has the right and obligation to struggle against negative phenomena that harm the collective or other collectives, not only within, but outside the enterprise as well. The collective of workers has the right and obligation to discuss and participate in determining the measures to be taken to improve the organization and management and apply scientific and technical advances and advanced experiences and measures designed to meet and exceed economic-technical standards and quotas and achieve new advances in productivity and quality. It has the right and obligation to discuss and

participate in decisions concerning the distribution of wages and bonuses and the utilization of the enterprise's welfare fund.

The collective of workers has the right and obligation to discuss and decide the internal rules of the enterprise, which must be consistent with the laws of the state. It has the right and obligation to inspect and supervise production-business operations, the fulfillment of commitments and economic contracts and the implementation of economic and financial management policies and procedures by the enterprise director.

The enterprise director, who is both the leader of the basic economic organization and the leader of the enterprise's collective of workers, can only complete the tasks assigned to him by the state when he mobilizes and organizes the enterprise's collective of workers in specific efforts and actions. Therefore the enterprise director has the responsibility of creating every possible favorable condition for the various collectives of workers to exercise and fulfill the rights and obligations stated above. The trade union organization represents the collective of workers in periodically signing a collective contract with the enterprise director, which clearly states the basic rights and obligations of each party with regard to insuring that production and business are carried out normally and the responsibility of each party toward the commitments it makes.

The overall objective of the organization of labor and the management of labor within the enterprise is to achieve high productivity, quality and efficiency. The main forces behind the efforts to achieve this objective are the rights and obligations of collective ownership of each worker within the enterprise, from the enterprise director downward. Rights and obligations go hand in hand. For every right there is an obligation. Conversely, the more important the right is, the larger the obligation is. The director and the collectives of workers at the enterprise must know how to properly combine socio-economic organizational measures and scientific-technical measures with elevating the rights and obligations of collective ownership in an effort to achieve an average rate of increase in labor productivity that is higher than the average rate of increase in wages. This is the source of a larger social product, of higher income for the worker, of an improvement in the welfare of the people.

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THE MAIN TASKS IN IDEOLOGICAL WORK TODAY

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 44-49

[Unattributed article]

[Text] Recently, in keeping with the directives and resolutions of the party, we have recorded significant results and made a number of advances in our ideological work, thereby making important contributions to teaching and mobilizing the people of the entire country to make every effort to overcome each difficulty and bring about positive changes in socialist transformation, in economic and cultural development, in strengthening the security and national defense systems and in fighting to defend the fatherland. The resolution of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee created a consensus and confidence among the mass of cadres, party members and people, inspiring everyone and every unit to struggle to dismantle the management mechanism based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies, gradually establish and put into practice the new management mechanism and implement economic accounting and socialist business practices.

However, in the face of acute difficulties with the economy and living conditions, in the face of some mistakes and shortcomings in organizing and guiding the implementation of the economic policies of the party and state, there are signs of worry and concern among cadres, party members and the people, some of whom are pessimistic, are wavering and lack confidence. Some cadres and party members are subjective and impetuous. A number of others are conservative and slow to change. Within many agencies of the party and the state apparatus, we find not only bureaucratic centralism, arbitrariness and paternalism, but also liberalism, decentralization, localism and a lack of organization and discipline. The will to fight of a number of cadres, party members and state personnel has declined. Some have become degenerate and deviant. Negative phenomena within the party and in society are still very serious. Many persons are no longer vigilant in the face of the malicious rumors and psychological warfare arguments of the enemy.

Meanwhile, our ideological work has not been effective or incisive. In the face of difficulties and negative phenomena, in the face of strong changes in prices and the market and in social attitudes, the various party committee echelons and propaganda and training agencies have not promptly provided the necessary education and corrected the mistaken thinking and actions of a

number of agencies, units and individuals. They have not taken positive and effective steps to expose the methods of sabotage employed by the enemy. The effort to teach qualities and ethics to cadres, party members and the people is still weak. The struggle against negative phenomena is not producing the desired results. The discipline of the party is not strict. Compliance with the laws of the state is lax. The educational nature and the militancy of the activities of party organizations, state agencies and mass organizations are weak. Appropriate attention is not being given to self-criticism and criticism. Many party committees and organizations of the party, many cadres and party members do not have a full understanding of the importance of ideological work and have relaxed their leadership efforts on this critical front.

At present, our party and people are making every effort to perform the economic and social tasks for 1986, with the aim of gradually stabilizing the socio-economic situation and creating the conditions for development in subsequent years. At the same time, we are continuing to strengthen our national defense forces, strengthen our security, maintain combat readiness and fight to defend the fatherland against the acts of encroachment and occupation along the border and against the wide-ranging war of sabotage of the enemy while fulfilling our international obligation in every situation. The various levels and sectors are actively preparing for and holding their party organization congresses and making preparations for the national congress of the party. These are very large and important tasks, tasks which must be actively and effectively supported by ideological work.

The objectives of ideological work at this point in time are to give everyone a clear understanding and correct evaluation of the situation; to show everyone our achievements as well as shortcomings, our advantages as well as difficulties; to achieve a higher consensus concerning the lines and views of the party and the emergency policies and measures aimed at stabilizing the socio-economic situation; to heighten the will to fight, the spirit of responsibility, the sense of organization and discipline and the exemplary, vanguard character of the party member; and to launch mass movements to overcome the difficulties being faced, successfully implement the positions and policies of the party and record achievements in celebration of the party congress.

Specifically, ideological work must focus on performing the following main tasks well:

First, mobilizing the masses to emulate one another and make every effort to restructure and accelerate production, achieve higher productivity, quality and efficiency, actively build and implement the new management mechanism and guarantee the production and business autonomy of basic economic units.

Continuing to gain a thorough understanding of and implement the resolution of the 8th Party Plenum, the aims of which are to dismantle the management mechanism based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies, shift our efforts to building and implementing the new management mechanism and implement economic accounting and socialist business practices, are the basic guidelines of our party, guidelines that are in the nature of principles and

strategy. The various party committee echelons must confirm the correct guidelines and the profound revolutionary significance of the resolution of the 8th Party Plenum, point out the initial results that have been achieved and the shortcomings that have been committed in the implementation of this resolution in the recent past as well as the difficulties that must be overcome so that everyone has a clear understanding of, agrees with and is determined to successfully implement the position set forth by the Party Central Committee and Political Bureau. It is necessary to expose and refute the allegations and methods of sabotage of the enemy; necessary to criticize attitudes and tendencies that are wrong, such as being pessimistic, wavering and lacking vigilance, being subjective and impetuous or being conservative, fearing difficulties and wanting to return to the old mechanism; and necessary to eliminate phenomena that reflect bureaucratic centralism or liberalism, decentralization and localism. At the same time, it is necessary to prevent other deviations that might occur.

In the work of propagandizing and disseminating the important tasks of the 1986 socio-economic plan and the specific positions and measures adopted to insure the performance of these tasks, importance must be attached to explaining to the masses and encouraging them to make every effort to carry out the tasks of restructuring and accelerating production, especially agricultural and consumer goods production; practicing thorough frugality and closely tying the production and frugality movement to taking positive steps to build and implement the new management mechanism and guarantee and uphold the production and business autonomy of basic units; redistributing labor throughout the country; carrying out the socialist transformation of the market and managing the market and prices; reorganizing the management apparatus, restructuring the system of production and business organizations, reducing the size of administrative staffs, reassigning cadres...

Present circumstances being what they are, importance must be attached to teaching and heightening the sense of collective ownership, the spirit of responsibility and the sense of organization and discipline. Every person, every basic unit, every sector and every locality must display the consciousness "for the entire country, together with the entire country," make every effort to overcome difficulties, overcome each hardship and be determined to fulfill their obligations to work, produce, practice frugality, build socialism and defend the fatherland well.

Secondly, preparing for and conducting good party organization congresses on the various levels and advancing to the national congress of the party.

In contrast to previous congresses, this party congress is being convened against the background of profound changes in the domestic, world and regional situations, changes that have brought basic advantages in our favor but have also brought us face to face with very many difficulties, the largest and most obvious of which are: the economic situation, living conditions and social situation of our country are still unstable; shortcomings in guiding the implementation of the resolution of the 8th Plenum have made the distribution-circulation front and our work in the fields of prices, wages and money an even more pressing issue; and negative phenomena within the party and in society are still quite serious. On the other hand, because many of the

members of our party's corps of cadres are now elderly and frail and no longer have the health or the ability to continue to hold key positions, we must make a partial transition from one generation of cadres to another to insure continuity and succession in the leadership of the party. In view of this situation, we might encounter certain difficulties in preparing for and holding the party organization congresses on the various levels as well as the national congress of the party if we do not perform good ideological work. The party committees and propaganda and training agencies must explain to party members and the people the objectives and importance of this party congress. They must teach and encourage the entire party and all the laboring masses to display a high spirit of unity and consensus, a high sense of responsibility to the party and the country, focus their intelligence and participate in discussing and contributing many practical opinions to the drafts of the documents of the party congress and to the party concerning the common work of the country. Everyone must be taught the correct views and methods to be adopted and employed in evaluating the situation of our country's revolution, summarizing the achievements that have been recorded as well as the shortcomings and difficulties that still exist, drawing experience, continuing to concretize the party's line and clearly and correctly defining the objectives and tasks for the coming period.

The ideological work of the party must help to educate and give cadres and party members a correct understanding of what is involved in strengthening the leadership organizations on the various levels of the party with a view toward meeting the present requirements of revolutionary tasks and the requirement that we revamp the cadre work of the party. It must equip them with the correct attitude and methods with regard to selecting persons for the party committee in order to avoid that which reflects conservatism, opportunism, localism, departmentalism, a desire for personal status and other mistakes.

Ideological work must actively participate in the self-criticism and criticism drive to insure that this important drive produces good results in exact accordance with the requirements set forth by the Party Secretariat, brings about new changes throughout the party and makes practical preparations for the party congress. Through the practice of self-criticism and criticism, particularly through acknowledging and effectively rectifying shortcomings, we must restore and increase the confidence that party members and the masses have in the leadership of the party and the management work of the state, heighten the spirit of responsibility and sense of organization and discipline, strengthen the solidarity and unanimity within the party, and launch and promote a good emulation movement to record achievements in celebration of the party congress.

Thirdly, cultivating revolutionary qualities and ethics in cadres and party members and struggling against negative phenomena within the party and in society.

This is a pressing requirement, is an important aspect of the ideological work of the party because, within the party and in society, there are signs of a decline in qualities and ethics which has harmed the reputation and prestige of the party and reduced the confidence of the masses. Party committees must realize the serious nature of this matter and fully concern themselves with

teaching qualities and ethics to cadres, party members and the people. In particular, they must give their attention to cultivating in cadres and party members the thinking, stand and views of the working class; building their patriotism, their revolutionary will to fight, their spirit of responsibility and the spirit of wholeheartedly serving the fatherland and the people; cultivating in them the revolutionary virtues of "diligence, honesty and fairness," unquestioned loyalty to the interests of the party and people and the virtue of living a faithful and simple life close to the masses; and combating every manifestation of individualism and the styles of bureaucracy, bossism and remoteness from the masses. The struggle against negative phenomena, particularly the theft of socialist property, bribery, earning a living illegally and intimidating the masses, must be intensified. The pure, revolutionary way of life must be extolled. The pragmatic way of life, the pursuit of money and base desires as well as the influences of the Western, bourgeois way of life that are infiltrating our country's society, particularly among youths, must be strongly criticized.

The struggle against negative phenomena can only yield good results if each level and each sector concerns itself with this struggle and wages it everywhere through positive and resolute measures. In the self-criticism and criticism campaign in preparation for the party congress and in building and implementing the new management mechanism, the various party committee echelons must demand that cadres and party members, beginning with key leadership and management cadres, truly set a good example and take the lead in this work. Education must be combined with organizing revolutionary action movements of the masses. Ideological work must be combined with organizational measures, such as the harsh punishment of persons who violate the law, the replacement of corrupt cadres and the expulsion of degenerate, deviant elements, so that the party organization and administrative agencies are truly pure, solid and strong.

Fourthly, building the spirit of socialist patriotism and revolutionary heroism, raising the level of vigilance and waging a determined struggle against the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists.

In view of the exceedingly reactionary nature of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists and in the face of the complex developments in the world and regional situations caused by the imperialists and international reactionaries, ideological work must delve deeply into heightening the sense of revolutionary vigilance, strengthening our national defense and security and waging a determined and steadfast struggle to defeat each scheme and act of provocation, encroachment and occupation of the enemy along the border, defeat their wide-ranging war of sabotage and refute their psychological warfare allegations. Propaganda and training agencies must expose the schemes, tactics and reactionary nature of the Chinese reactionaries and show everyone that the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists continue to be the direct and dangerous enemy of our people, continue to collaborate with the U.S. imperialists in opposing and attacking the revolution of Vietnam. Their basic nature and policy have never changed. The stand of our party and state must be made clear, namely, that we desire peaceful coexistence and good neighborly relations with China, desire to peacefully resolve the issues in dispute but are determined to retaliate against each act of aggression and

sabotage of the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. As long as they continue to pursue a hostile policy toward our country, our people and army must remain determined to fight to defend the fatherland.

It is necessary to educate all the people, particularly youths, in national defense; necessary to accelerate the movement to have all the people participate in maintaining security and social order; and necessary to heighten the effectiveness of the nationwide movement to reinforce the frontlines and build a solid border defense line.

Fifthly, educating everyone in our international obligation, teaching solidarity with the people of the world, opposing the arms race policy, the policy of aggression and the colonial policy of imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialists, and struggling for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

International propaganda efforts must heighten the awareness of our cadres, party members and people concerning the basic international tasks of the forces of the world revolution and the foreign policy of our party and state. Attention must be given to presenting the achievements and experiences in socialist construction of the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries, extolling the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and exposing the bellicose nature and the aggressive, reactionary policy of imperialism, headed by the United States. It is necessary to analyze the position, significance and new achievements of the struggle for peace and disarmament, the struggle against the arms race policy of the imperialists.

In teaching about the foreign policy of our party, it is necessary to point out the importance of strengthening our strategic alliance and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union and strengthening our special relations with Laos and Cambodia. We must expose the counter-revolutionary strategy of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region and confirm the correctness of our positions and policies to combat the Asia-Pacific strategy of the United States. In particular, ideological work must do a good job of teaching and heightening the sense of self-reliance, of not relying upon international assistance, and fulfilling our commitments from the standpoint of cooperation with the fraternal countries.

Strengthening the leadership of ideological work by the organizations of the party is the matter of foremost importance in increasing the quality and effectiveness of this work. The party committees and each cadre and party member must possess the consciousness of being the master and the ability to be the master on the ideological front, must assume direct responsibility for the state of the thinking of party members and the masses and must consider ideological work to be an important part of their leadership work. They must properly implement the guideline "the entire party performs ideological work" and closely combine economic leadership with ideological and organizational work.

Full importance must be attached to improving the themes, forms and methods of ideological work so that this work becomes an increasing part of life and is rich, interesting, highly militant and effective. Most importantly, it is

necessary to improve the quality of the activities of party committees and party chapters by holding discussions for the purpose of gaining a thorough understanding of the lines, policies, resolutions and directives of the party. When differing opinions exist, they must be discussed and conclusions must be reached in order to make a clear distinction between right and wrong and maintain unity and consensus within the party. At the same time, specific ideological and organizational measures must be taken to correctly disseminate and implement the directives and resolutions of the party.

The party committees must make it established procedure for each party committee member and key leadership cadre of the various departments, sectors and mass organizations to periodically meet with the laboring masses at basic units to explain to them the positions of the party and the policies and laws of the state; to keep abreast of changes in thinking, alleviate concerns, answer questions raised by the masses and correct deviations; to bring to light and popularize good methods and experiences; and to accept suggestions made by the masses to study and act upon them or to forward them to the responsible agency for a response and action. These are important measures in insuring that ideological work is close to life and helps to build closer ties between the party and the masses.

Clearly aware of the sharp and bitter nature of the struggle between ourselves and the enemy, between the two paths on the ideological and cultural front today, the organizations of the party must take greater initiative and be more effective when it comes to combating the enemy's schemes of sabotage. They must take measures to quickly make information available and must promptly bring to light and resolutely refute malicious rumors and hostile arguments. They must prosecute and harshly punish persons who spread malicious rumors and propaganda designed to sabotage us.

The party committees must strengthen their leadership of the corps of reporters and propagandists and make good use of party members, Youth Union members, members of the mass organizations, agencies of the state and facilities of the mass media in regularly broadcasting news, explaining policies, disseminating experiences, promptly criticizing incorrect thinking and actions and refuting the psychological warfare allegations of the enemy. Every cadre and party member must display a high sense of organization and discipline, speak and act in accordance with the resolutions of the party, set good examples for the masses and perform good propaganda work among the masses. The organizations of the press must improve the themes and forms of propaganda under the guidelines of improving the quality of information and promptly reporting the good experiences of advanced units and individuals, but not reporting only about achievements and advantages. They must avoid being hackneyed and avoid the malady of formalism. They must not say that something has been done before it actually has, must not say that something is widespread when it is not and must not say something that is not true. They must do away with all news that is formal in nature, is unnecessary protocol and attach importance to expressing the criticisms of the masses in the press. The practice of self-criticism and criticism in the press must be put on a regular basis. The press must be highly ideological and militant, must truly be a positive force stimulating the productive labor movement and stimulating

efforts to build and implement the new management mechanism, build a wholesome way of life and struggle against negative phenomena.

The party schools must intensify and improve the quality of cadre training in order to properly support the requirements of building the economy, transforming the old production relations, strengthening and perfecting the new production relations, building the new economic structure, revamping the management mechanism and strengthening the various party committee echelons. Together with news agency organizations, organizations of the press and publishing houses, the party schools have a very important responsibility in cultivating the qualities, increasing the knowledge and improving the style of leadership and work methods of cadres and party members. The party committees of the provinces, municipalities and special zone must intensify their leadership of the party schools in the areas of improving programs of instruction, improving the way that persons are selected to attend these schools, strengthening the corps of instructors and raising the training of cadres to a new level of qualitative development, one consistent with new requirements.

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TOWARD THE 6TH CONGRESS OF THE PARTY, CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRATEGY IN THE INITIAL STAGE IN OUR COUNTRY: SOME MATTERS TO WHICH ATTENTION MUST BE GIVEN IN THE MOBILIZATION OF WOMEN

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 50-54

[Article by Nguyen Thi Dinh]

[Text] Women make up 56 percent of our country's social labor force and account for more than 60 percent of the persons working in agriculture, light industry, small industry and the handicraft trades, distribution-circulation, the cultural sector, education and public health. Deserving of attention is the fact that women make up a very high percentage of the persons who directly produce products and work at basic units. For example, women account for 60 to 80 percent of the persons working at cooperatives, production units, shops, hospitals, schools, stores, etc. Female cadres account for more than 50 percent of the cadres who have a middle school education and more than 30 percent of the cadres who have a college education.

In recent years, under the leadership of the party and with the assistance of state agencies, women have made enormous efforts and significant contributions to the country's revolutionary cause. Many installations, sections and units whose labor force consists almost entirely of women have completed their state plans for many years in a row. More than a few women cadres have displayed dynamism and creativity, brought their units through difficulties, developed production, maintained the standard of living of the worker and contributed more to the state with each passing day. In the face of the need to achieve higher productivity, quality and efficiency in production and work, the potentials of women are very large. However, many unresolved problems that have a direct bearing upon our efforts to develop the capabilities of women have been and are limiting the contributions made by them to our common work.

The 6th Congress of our party is about to be held. The women of Vietnam are confident that this party congress will lead to extremely important revolutionary changes. Facts have shown that the equality of the sexes brought to women by the revolution can only be maintained and built upon and the difficulties being encountered in production, work and the everyday lives of women can only be resolved on the basis of perfecting socialist production relations, carrying out economic and cultural development and stabilizing the standard of living under a correct socio-economic strategy. At the same time,

how well we meet socio-economic objectives and how well we carry out the programs and plans of the party and state depend, to a very important degree, upon how well we develop the enormous potentials of women.

To develop the role and capabilities of women in the cause of building socialism and defending the socialist fatherland, we hereby present a number of problems for the congress to consider and adopt guidelines for resolving.

1. Improving the Working and Living Conditions of Women and Providing Jobs to Women

Participating in productive labor in society is a very important premise to raising the standards of women and achieving equality between men and women. However, in our country, the process of women widely and rapidly participating in productive labor in society has occurred mainly in war time, mainly under the conditions of an undeveloped economy in which production is mainly strenuous, manual labor characterized by very low social labor productivity and it has not been possible to expand collective welfare projects in order to reduce the woman's burden of household work. Therefore, despite concern on the part of the party and state, the working and living conditions of women are, in actuality, still very difficult. Implements and draft power are still in short supply. Machinery and factories are old. There is a very serious shortage of equipment to provide even a minimum amount of labor sanitation and labor safety equipment. Raw materials, fuel and building materials are supplied irregularly and so forth. This situation plus the fact that the distribution and utilization of female labor are irrational in many respects have made it necessary for women to work hard, to expend much labor but still work with low productivity, especially during the agricultural season, at times of natural disasters or during the final months of the quarter or year. On the other hand, living conditions, the state of development of transportation, household work, the education and medical care of their children and so forth also consume more than a small amount of women's energy, especially women whose husbands are far away. It can be said that three heavy burdens--productive labor in society, the subsidiary economy and household work--rest upon the shoulders of women. Women are rarely able to further their education, rest or relax. Their standards are being raised slowly while their health is rapidly deteriorating.

In the countryside, female labor is performing the major portion of the work involved in producing grain, food products, agricultural products for exportation... Although their living conditions are more stable than previously, their working conditions are still very difficult and strenuous. At some times and places, they are forced to pull plows in place of buffalo. On top of this, some essentials, such as cloth, mosquito netting, soap and lantern oil, are still in very short supply. The mobilization of labor under the labor obligation is still haphazard. At some places, more than 60 workdays are deducted from women each year for this purpose. In addition, the disproportionate distribution of labor between men and women in some areas has also caused some social phenomena that are deserving of concern.

The above are the problems that are limiting the productivity and efficiency of those women who have jobs. But the greatest concern of families, of

society is the fact that a considerable percentage of women do not have a job. This is the common problem of society. However, to women, this difficulty is even larger because the thinking of being hesitant to use female labor is still quite widespread. At a time when the pool of male labor is limited (because the country must perform two strategic tasks) and despite the fact that female labor possesses capabilities that are well suited to many sectors and trades, some places still utilize female labor reluctantly, utilize it on a temporary basis and only for the purpose of meeting immediate needs. They lack determination to train, support and care for female labor so that women workers can be effectively utilized on a long-term basis. This is a large waste of potentials of the country.

Of course, to utilize the capabilities of female labor in a manner that yields high socio-economic returns, the functional agencies must, as part of their management of labor, in general, conduct scientific research programs to deeply and comprehensively analyze the special characteristics of female labor. On this basis, policies, plans and measures must be adopted for rationally distributing and utilizing female labor within the different sectors, trades, economic zones and regions of the country and to train women laborers, protect them on the job and look after their living conditions. Very little has been done by way of projects to research the work environment of women, their working conditions, the nature of their work and their living conditions, particularly women in the countryside, in order to adopt appropriate policies and measures. Although our party has established agriculture as the front of foremost importance, in many plans for the development of agriculture, forestry and fishing, very little attention is given to policies and measures concerning the human factor, which is the decisive factor in raising crop and livestock yields.

2. Implementing the Female Cadre Policy Better

The right of ownership of the laborer must not only be upheld in production, but must also be exercised by participating in the management of and directly managing production. In this field, the number of women is generally small, is not commensurate with the role and contributions of women. In many sectors, women make up more than 60 percent of the labor force but women cadres only hold from 5 to 10 percent of leadership positions. As a result, efforts to encourage innovations and tap the experience of the women who directly participate in productive labor as well as promptly resolve the difficulties being encountered by them have also been somewhat limited.

During the past 2 years, the implementation of Party Secretariat Directive 44 concerning a number of matters of pressing importance in female cadre work has brought about some changes. Realizing the need for female cadres to help to strengthen the leadership provided by the party and state in every field, promote the women's movement and further strengthen the ties between the party and state and the masses, the various levels and sectors have taken practical steps to improve their female cadre work. The number of women brought within the scope of planning and sent for training has risen. In 1985, women cadres accounted for more than 14 percent of the enrollment at regional party schools, a 6 percent increase over 1984. Some 28.6 percent of the persons recently elected as delegates to the provincial and municipal people's

councils are women (during the previous council term, only 22.5 percent were women). Twenty women have been appointed to serve as vice chairmen or secretaries of provincial and municipal people's committees (during the previous committee term, only seven women were appointed to these positions). Hundreds of women have been promoted to the positions of head or deputy head of services, departments and sectors on the local level, the staff departments, line departments and institutes in the ministries, the federations of enterprise, enterprises, corporations, etc.

However, these are only initial results. There are still many basic units that know nothing about party Directive 44. Even in units that have a thorough understanding of Directive 44, the planning and training of female cadres are still limited in many ways. Of the women who have been promoted, few have made an impact. The struggle against prejudices, narrowmindedness, conservatism and unfair treatment of women cadres continues to be a process that demands close and constant leadership by the various party committee echelons. In the face of the requirements that we revamp the economic management mechanism and revise our economic thinking, it is particularly important that the party committees concern themselves with training and helping female cadres to work in a more dynamic and effective manner and achieve larger results.

3. Building Families of the New, Socialist Culture

The issue of achieving equality between men and women and the issue of developing the role of women as the masters of society as well as their ability to be the masters of society are inseparable from building families of the new, socialist culture. The family not only has an impact upon the life and work of the woman, but also plays a direct role in the formation of the new, socialist man and way of life. The realities of socialist construction in the fraternal countries show that in the process of the industrialization of the country, socio-economic conditions have a profound impact upon the nature, structure and function of the family and upon family relations. If the party and state do not implement a system of measures designed to build the family in a manner consistent with the new historical conditions that exist, the family will easily be destroyed, which will be accompanied by a host of serious economic and social consequences. The 27th Congress of the CPSU viewed the family as one of the most important pillars of society and made strengthening the stability of the family a task with which all state agencies and social organizations must fully concern themselves.

In our country, the family issue has always had the full attention of the party and Uncle Ho. The victory of the revolution shattered feudal relations within the family and created the conditions for the formation of the new style family. However, in the initial stage of the period of transition to socialism, the new style family cannot come into being if we do not organize scientific research into the new problems arising within the family so that appropriate positions and measures can be adopted. Sometimes, the rules of society are broken even within the family, thereby creating disorder for society. During the past few years, cases stemming from family friction have accounted for a high percent of the number of violations of the law, thus sounding a warning very deserving of attention.

4. Planned Parenthood and the Preparation of the Future Generation

In the old society, the family's function of bearing and raising children was fulfilled in a spontaneous fashion. In the new society, with our sense of being our own masters and through the achievements of science, it is both necessary and possible to adjust the process of population growth to be consistent with the requirements and capabilities of the country's economy. Our party and state adopted a policy concerning this issue more than 20 years ago. Today, however, the population continues to grow quickly, thereby exacerbating the imbalances in every area of society. The population issue must be addressed in a clearer and more resolute manner. The scientific and practical foundations of the policy that each family have no more than two children must be clearly explained. This is a mandatory limit imposed by the economy, is an urgent measure aimed at raising per capita income. It also represents an humanitarian view that is based in both science and practice. But the objective mentioned above cannot be achieved if we only stress the factors of psychology and habit and do not take positive, determined measures to limit the number of births. The state must make appropriate investments in propaganda and education, in the application of scientific measures in order to encourage and create the most favorable conditions possible for each family to consciously limit births to a number consistent with the requirements of society.

Our state and society must effectively regulate human reproduction, not only from the standpoint of quantity, but quality as well, with a view toward creating a future generation that possesses the physical strength, spirit and intellect needed to meet the very high requirements of the new period. The youths who will build socialism and defend the socialist fatherland in Vietnam in the early years of the 21st century are the children who are in kindergartens and child care centers today and the children who will be born in the next 5 to 10 years. The malnourished children, the small, underweight newborns and the retarded children we see today are a cause of great concern. We must adopt a host of well-coordinated policies and measures designed to make our race more beautiful so that the future generation matures and grows in a manner commensurate with the historic tasks it will shoulder. The policy on pregnancies, the policy concerning mothers and children and the education of teenagers and children are specific, practical matters to which the state, society and each family must give its attention.

Solving the major problems described above is, of course, the responsibility of the Vietnam Women's Union, but not solely the responsibility of women. Our party and state have issued directives and resolutions concerning these problems but the implementation of these directives and resolutions has yet to yield the desired results. In addition to objective difficulties, there is a subjective cause of these problems, namely, the fact that many party committees do not have a thorough understanding of the views, line and policy of the party concerning the women's issue as part of the entire proletarian dictatorship system. The Political Report at the 5th National Congress of the Party stated: "To continue to promote the cause of women's liberation, to achieve equality between men and women and to further develop the role and capabilities of women in building socialism and defending the fatherland, the party committees must give all organizations within the proletarian

dictatorship system a thorough understanding of the party's views and policies concerning the mobilization of women." (1)

It is our thinking that in order for the party's guidelines, views and policies concerning the mobilization of women to become a part of life, they must be expressed in the form of programs and plan norms that are closely tied to the socio-economic programs of the state during each period and are supported by well coordinated political, ideological, economic, legal and other measures. The large scale and scope of women's issues demand that the party and state establish organizations tasked with deeply researching and proposing positions and measures for each period of time and inspecting and supervising their implementation. The parties and states of the fraternal socialist countries have experience in this matter. In our country, one of the reasons why the directives and resolutions of the party and policies of the state concerning women's issues have not been implemented well during the past 10 years and more is that we do not have such organizations. In addition, strengthening the organization and improving the mode of operation of the Women's Union in order to develop its role as the representative of the right of ownership of women are also matters that must be given attention when the party discusses mobilizing the masses and upholding the right of collective ownership of the laboring people.

We suggest that the major issues in the mobilization of women presented above be addressed in the proceedings of the upcoming party congress and hope that these party congresses on the various levels will mark an important change in the party's leadership of the women's movement--which is a matter of strategic importance to the entire cause of our country's revolution.

FOOTNOTES

1. "Van kien Dai hoi V," [Proceedings of the 5th Congress], Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1982, Volume I, p 131.

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TOWARD THE 6TH CONGRESS OF THE PARTY, CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRATEGY IN THE INITIAL STAGE IN OUR COUNTRY: CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FORESTRY INDUSTRY

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 55-58

[Article by Phan Xuan Dot]

[Text] Through the creative application of the resolution of the 5th National Congress of the Party and the resolutions of the subsequent party plenums, our country has recorded major achievements in agricultural production, the forest industry and fishing. As for itself, the forest industry has undergone significant changes and made noteworthy advances in the forest business and in building the material bases of the forest industry, the direction of development being toward large-scale socialist production. In a shift away from placing heavy emphasis on harvesting while giving light attention to regrowth, we have intensified the development of the forest industry in the direction of combining harvesting with regrowth and building forest resources under the guideline of combining forestry and agriculture, with importance attached to strengthening and developing state-operated forces as the nucleus of the industry. At the same time, we have accelerated the assignment of land and forests to the laboring people in order to develop their role as collective owners in the protection and effective utilization of land and natural resources, widely implemented the guideline "the state and the people, the central level and the locality working together" and used the forests to develop the forests. As a result, in recent years, despite many difficulties and major imbalances in many areas of the industry, we have taken every conceivable measure and established new sources of balance in our labor, arable land and forest resources in order to implement the state plan on the harvesting and processing of forest products to meet the essential needs of the state. In particular, we have taken the initiative in revamping the management mechanism, carrying out capital formation and mobilizing capital for the planting of one-half million additional hectares of forests, thereby exceeding 50 percent of the afforestation target set by the 5th Party Congress and achieving the largest scale and highest rate of the planting of whole forests and individual trees every achieved. As a result of implementing the policy on assigning land and forests to cooperatives and the people and adopting stronger management measures, measures that closely tie responsibilities and authority to the specific interests of the state, the collective and the individual laborer, forestry production and the forest

industry have achieved a rather high rate of development. The federations, forestry sites, enterprises, scientific-technical research units and forestry service units have been operating in a more dynamic and creative fashion. They have put a stop to prolonged operating losses, stabilized their production and been achieving increasingly high returns in their business.

Looking back on the 5 years that we have spent implementing the line on building and developing the forest industry in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 5th Party Congress, we see that there are, besides the results we have achieved, many shortcomings that must be corrected so that we can continue to move ahead.

Due to the importance and role of the forests and forestry operations in the economy, culture, society, environment and national defense, forestry has been defined by the party and state as a level I economic-technical sector within the system of national economic sectors. In view of its abundant potentials, the forest industry should be strongly developed in order to actively support socialist construction and the improvement of the standard of living, particularly among the ethnic minorities who live near the forests. However, confusion with regard to solving the grain problem and developing the strengths that lie in the forests has led to the destruction of forests by clearing land for the cultivation of grain and other crops. On the other hand, shortcomings in forest management have allowed the forests to continue to decline in many respects and not much bare ground or much land in barren hills has been put to use. The quantity of wood harvested each year is small, and that which is harvested is not being utilized in a thorough and economical manner. The processing and use of forest resources are marked by much waste. Meanwhile, society's needs for forest products are steadily growing. Although the exportation of forest products and forest specialty products has exceeded plan quotas and increased rather rapidly, the results that have been achieved are still limited compared to the capabilities of the forests because of the many obstacles posed by the way exports are organized and by the export policy.

We realize that although the forest industry has made progress in many areas, progress that reflects positive change in the direction of revamping the management mechanism, in order to meet the requirements of life today and socio-economic development in the future, the forest industry must make a more positive effort to meet the following general targets:

--First, it is necessary to manage and protect existing forests, utilize them commercially in a rational way and closely tie the harvesting of forests to the use of forests to regulate and control the climate by means of the methods of forestry science in order to enrich forest resources and increase the output and quality of the natural and cultivated forests in an effort to annually harvest an average of 1 cubic meter of wood and firewood per hectare on all forest land.

--Secondly, it is necessary to cover with vegetation and make effective use of barren hills and mountains by many different methods and measures (including the planting of whole forests, the planting of industrial crops, the planting of individual trees at scattered sites, the zoning of forests for natural

growth and development, the building of forest stands, forest camps and so forth) in order to quickly build forest resources and increase the percentage of land covered by forests.

—Thirdly, it is necessary to step up processing operations, process raw materials for the purposes of making full and combined use of these materials and process tre bamboo, nua bamboo and other forest products and forest specialty products with the aim of increasing the variety of products and building materials available to serve the needs of the people.

--Fourthly, it is necessary to rapidly increase the output of exported products, particularly products processed from wood, forest specialty products, pharmaceuticals and valuable species of animal life...

By meeting the strategic targets presented above, the forest industry will rapidly increase forest resources and meet the requirements of protecting production and protecting the environment. At the same time, it will produce many more products to serve domestic and export needs and create new areas to which labor and population can be redistributed, thereby helping to improve every aspect of the socio-economic situation in mountainous, forest areas.

To strongly develop the forest industry in line with the four major targets presented above, we must implement a number of well coordinated policies and measures, with efforts focused on successfully implementing the following measures of basic importance:

1. To begin with, we must do a good job of reorganizing the forests and classifying the forests by objective and purpose (including the commercial forests, shelter belt forests and special youth forests). At the same time, we must divide the forests into a system of subareas (each consisting of roughly 1,000 hectares), with the subarea being the basic unit for the implementation of forest commercial management measures in accordance with a uniform, nationwide standard. This should also be the basic unit in the division of management labor and responsibilities as well as in the assignment of land and forests to cooperatives and the people to be managed by them and to basic economic units to be protected and used by them commercially in a way that is rational and in exact accordance with the planning, plans and policies of the state, thereby putting a halt to the abuses in the harvesting of the forests, which are damaging forest assets.

2. On the basis of the forests and forest land that have been assigned to each economic unit and the management standards and economic-technical plan established for each specific forest zone, state-operated units, collective units, army units, agencies and schools have the responsibility of organizing the protection and commercial use of the forests in the most effective manner possible. At the same time, they must fulfill obligations to the state and obligations defined under the law (the obligation to deliver and supply products to the state, the obligations to plant forests, allow forests to regrow, restore forests...). The amount of land and forests assigned must also be readjusted to be consistent with the business capabilities of each type unit and the different growth cycles of crops. In the past, forestry sites were usually too large. Now, each should consist of only 20,000 to

25,000 hectares. The average cooperative should be assigned four to five subareas; each production unit should be assigned one to two subareas; each household should be assigned a contract to protect and repair 1 to 5 hectares and so forth to insure that all forests assigned to cooperatives and the people are put to use. Once land and forests have been assigned, it is necessary to provide guidance, to organize production and business and periodically conduct inspections and evaluate quantitative and qualitative changes in natural resources, including soil fertility, so that timely corrective measures can be taken.

3. It is necessary to reorganize the production of and business in forest products along the lines of combining forestry, agriculture and industry, expand the various sectors and trades, particularly the processing of forest products, forest specialty products and products that combine agriculture, forestry and fishing and establish a general business with a view toward thoroughly developing potentials, creating additional jobs and employing much social labor (most importantly labor within the ethnic settlement areas). Facts show that, in recent years, the federations of enterprises, forestry sites and cooperatives that have organized a general business and opened many sectors and trades have employed much labor and achieved high efficiency. At the same time, they have created new capabilities and favorable conditions for resolving socio-economic problems well. At present, the labor participating in forest production only amounts to roughly 2 percent of the social labor force. Were we to organize a general forest business (on the 15 million hectares of forests and forest land), we could provide jobs to millions of persons.

In keeping with the above guidelines, it is necessary to restructure the forest industry and refine the system of production, business and technical service organizations and the administrative-economic management apparatus from the ministry to the provinces, districts and villages. It is also necessary to clearly define the functions and the scope of authority and responsibility of the sector and locality and guarantee the autonomy in production and business of each basic economic unit in keeping with the spirit of the resolution (draft) of the Political Bureau on "insuring the production and business autonomy of basic economic units." Special importance must be attached to strengthening the forestry management apparatus and the forest production and business organization within the district in order to help the district level to control the forests, effectively guide the management and use of resources and support economic construction and development targets.

4. The potentials that can be developed to achieve prosperity through forestry are very large. However, our management mechanism and system of policies do not truly provide strong incentive for the development of the forest industry. Therefore, in the years ahead, we must quickly codify the division of forest management labor and responsibilities between the central level and the localities and codify the business responsibility and authority in the use of forests and forest land of state-operated economic units, collectives and households as the specific parties in charge of a specific area of land or forest who have been assigned this land or forest by the state to use for commercial purposes or have accepted a contract from the cooperative to protect land or forest. The regulations on the organization of

the management of the forests and the forest business must reflect the principle of insuring that the forests are used for the correct purposes, that is, that the uniformity of long-term forestry planning is maintained and the forests are used in exact accordance with the commercial objectives of each type, while achieving the combined strength of the three different levels exercising ownership together and the three different forces working in the forests together. Whether the forests are assigned to state-operated units, collectives or households and even if they are used commercially by many units and forces, these units and forces must be structured and deployed as a large production formation and the forests cannot be cut up, fragmented or used in a haphazard manner.

Appropriate policies must be adopted concerning prices, procurements, goods delivered in trade, exported forest products and so forth, particularly with regard to the prices of forest products planted on barren hills, in the mountains, along the border and in newly settled ethnic minority areas. At places that are experiencing many difficulties, policies must be adopted that truly provide incentive and positive assistance in order to build enthusiasm among the people for production, solve problems related to living conditions and help to produce many products for society. If necessary, forest business income taxes can be deferred for one or two state business cycles to help localities and basic units make strong investments in building the forests and building material-technical bases in areas within the mountainous forests.

In view of the fact that investments by the state are limited and in order to strongly attract the large forces of the people, most importantly their abundant labor and the available sources of capital, materials and equipment within the localities and various sectors and among the different strata of the people, policies must be enacted that expand commodity trade between the mountains and the lowlands, expand the various forms of cooperation and economic ties and expand the ways that capital is mobilized and drawn from many different places in order to strongly develop the forest industry, particularly in those localities that have many natural resources and large amounts of land that are currently lying fallow. It is necessary to encourage the processing of products, processing to make full use of raw materials and the economical use of wood and other forest products.

Forestry operations, in addition to their significance as economic activities, also have broad cultural, social and environmental significance and affect the lives of many generations. Consequently, besides economic policies that closely tie responsibilities to immediate economic interests, it is necessary to widely teach citizens about the obligations they have in building and protecting the forests and necessary to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of the laws that pertain to the forests. At the same time, the state must soon adopt a policy that defines the specific obligations of the citizen in building the forests, protecting the forests and preventing and fighting forest fires, obligations which must be considered the same as the obligation to protect socialist property.

By performing the jobs described above well, we will surely unleash new forces stimulating the comprehensive and strong development of the forest industry, forces insuring that natural resources are harvested and utilized in a

rational manner, forces actively supporting economic construction and the strengthening of the national defense system within our country.

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TOWARD THE 6TH CONGRESS OF THE PARTY, CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STRATEGY IN THE INITIAL STAGE IN OUR COUNTRY: THE POPULATION TOWER AND THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITHIN EACH LOCALITY

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 59-63

[Article by Do Long]

[Text] To take the initiative and display creativity in production and business and make the most efficient use possible of the potentials that lie in labor, arable land and the other strengths when formulating socio-economic development plans, the localities must establish population towers and consider them to be scientifically based projections.

Establishing population towers is one of the foremost measures employed in a basic investigation of existing and future potentials of the human factor in the population from the standpoint of both the quantity and quality of labor. Through this approach, we can see the different starting points, special characteristics, strengths and weaknesses of each locality. As a result, the formulation of both immediate and long-range plans is not only consistent with the political line and economic development guidelines, but is also compatible with actual circumstances and real conditions within the state economy and the collective economy.

From a population tower, we can very clearly see specific figures, see the material, spiritual and cultural needs of the masses that are emerging each day. Through positions and policies, leaders must promptly meet these needs in the present stage. They must also address these needs in a serious manner in our socio-economic development strategy for the period between now and the year 2000 and subsequent years.

By making a population tower for each locality, the various leadership and management levels will acquire one of several practical bases for directing, guiding, inspecting and approving the plans of subordinate units. And, it is also on this basis that they can formulate, adjust and unify the plans on the level of which they are in charge. This gradual approach makes it possible to avoid the imposition of subjective desires, avoid illusions and curbs the shortcomings of impetuosity, hastiness and voluntarism. At the same time, this approach also makes it possible to take the guesswork out of the establishment of control figures, which have always been seriously unbalanced,

are never based on a specific starting point and for which there is no real possibility of fulfilling even many years later.

How To Build a Population Tower

In many countries, the population picture resembles a tower. In the developing countries, the base of the tower is broader, the top is more steeply pointed. In our country, the process of population growth also lies within the scope of this general law.

Building population towers for the localities is not a complex or difficult matter. The total population is divided into two blocs. Males are on one side, females on the other. The tower is divided by age group, from the youngest to the oldest, for example, from 0 to 3, 4 to 6, 7 to 9, 10 to 12, 13 to 15 and 16 to 18 years of age and continues in this manner up to the oldest person in the population. On each side, both the male and the female side, the number of persons in each age group is recorded as is the percentage that each age group constitutes of the total population during each 5 year period so that the status of each age group can be accurately determined. The following model can be used:

Males

Percentage of the total
population in each age
group

Females

Percentage of the total
population in each age
group

16-18

13-15

10-12

07-09

04-06

0-3

Total population

The Population Tower and Economic Issues

As part of his responsibility for the material life of the people, for the fulfillment of grain and food product obligations to the state, for the distribution of welfare funds and for the accumulation of capital for expanded reproduction, the planner must take into consideration the total amount of grain and food products contained within his total output so that he can provide the standard of eating required by the different age groups of the population with a view toward replenishing the energies expended in labor. Plans for the development of the collective economy and the household economy must also take the population tower into consideration. Through this approach, it is possible to gradually satisfy the need for an adequate supply

of food, and then the need for good tasting food, the need for decent clothing, and then the need for clothing that is warm and attractive, the needs for land for housing and housing itself, as well as the need for housing of high quality, the need for means of transportation and roads... These needs will grow within the different age groups as the population moves ahead over the next 5, 10 and 15 years. According to the laws of nature, children grow up, become adults, marry and have children of their own. The material needs of the various segments of the population do not remain the same, rather, they increase as our society and our times advance. Reality clearly reflects an objective law that applies in both social life and the life of the individual: once needs have been satisfied, other needs that are higher, newer and more diverse immediately emerge.

The agro-industrial economic structure, the agro-forestry-fishing-industrial economic structures, structures that encompass both production and processing, that closely tie production to distribution...must be planned on the basis of the development of the population, most specifically on the basis of the figures related to the various age groups within the population tower. This means that we must arrange our organization and do business, must produce exports and import products with a view toward constantly raising our output and productivity so that we can meet the rising demands of population growth. We can only see the correlation between labor, on the one side, and land and existing material-technical bases, on the other, when we have constructed population towers that are scientific, specific and detailed.

The Population Tower and Labor Issues

The population tower enables us to obtain a clear picture and more correctly evaluate primary labor forces and their existing and future potentials. We are able to determine the structure of the sectors and trades within each locality; determine how many persons are working in agriculture, forestry and fishing; determine how many laborers are working in the handicraft trades; determine whether these laborers are old or young, men or women; and determine the percentage of the total population they constitute in the various age groups. We can determine the quantity and quality of labor in the different age groups and the different skill levels of each. We can determine whether the relationship between labor and land within each locality is truly balanced and whether or not this relationship constitutes a strength. We can determine what socio-economic managers must do to develop this strength. We can determine matters concerning intensive cultivation and rotation cultivation and changes in the allocation of crops and livestock from one stage of development to another. We can determine which sectors and trades must be developed in keeping with local tradition or habits or which must be brought in from other places in order to make full use of idle labor and labor that is displaced when machines are introduced in agriculture. All these matters must be planned on the basis of the population tower.

With serious imbalances having emerged in many fields of life, imbalances which will become more serious in the future if not promptly corrected, sending persons to build new economic zones is a matter that must be urgently addressed. Whether they are sent up to the North or down to the South, their movement must be very thoroughly and efficiently organized within the socio-

economic development plans of both the locality from which they are leaving and the locality to which they are going. Plans are realistic, are workable if the building of a population tower is employed as a method of foremost important.

The Population Tower and Education Issues

All children must be cared for and educated as they grow up. Everything from child care centers to kindergartens, basic general schools, middle schools, trade training schools, short-term academic and professional training...must be planned. The formulation of education plans must take into consideration the state of the economy and society and project the social returns from education in material and non-material production in the future. How many child care centers, how many schools and classrooms are needed? Should they be one or two story structures? How many toys, how much equipment, how much teaching and learning aids, how many books and so forth are needed to support, care for and instruct children? When drawing up a plan, child care governesses and teachers being trained and the conditions under which they will work must be taken into consideration so that the education of new workers for the next several years and the years thereafter is truly compatible with changes in the population as reflected in the population tower.

The sending of persons to short-term and long-term training classes in order to develop the sectors and trades within the locality with the aim of making full use of labor and the selection of persons attending middle schools or colleges to provide direct or indirect support must also be considered and projected for both the present and the years ahead. The budget and social welfare funds allocated for education as permitted by the capabilities of the national economy, of the collective, together with the contributions made by the people, must also be calculated in detail on the basis of the data contained within the current population tower and its natural and social development in the years ahead. One of the reliable bases in the formulation of the education plan in each village, each district and each province must be the projections on the development of the population made by means of population towers.

The Population Tower and Some Other Social Issues

Population towers that are specific and detailed do more than draw an overall picture of the size and quality of the population. They also supply necessary information on the number of elderly persons, retired persons, persons no longer able to work, war invalids, disabled persons, widows and orphans, persons afflicted with dangerous diseases, vagrants and homeless persons. The entire population, most importantly the social insurance agencies, must give thought to, concern themselves with and care for these persons.

When they become old, when they are sick or die, how are persons whose entire life was closely associated with the collective economy cared for by cooperatives? How should the social policies that apply to wounded and ill veterans, retired persons, families who have served the revolution, widows and orphans, the disabled and so forth be concretely expressed in the locality's

socio-economic master plan? Arrangements can be made for them to work at appropriate jobs in order to reduce the burden on society and avoid making these people feel that they are not needed.

Planned preventive medicine and medical treatment services must not only be directed toward the categories of persons mentioned above, but must also be provided on a priority basis to the persons who are currently working and the generations that are maturing and will come along in the future. The number of medical aid stations of each locality, the number of beds, the supply of medicine and public health implements, the number of nurses, physicians and doctors, the number of midwives and newborns and the related social policies in the present and the future as well...all must be determined on an objective basis, of which the population tower and its changes are a reliable element.

The cultural and social facilities of each population center, from the cultural hall, club, library, athletic field, swimming pool and soccer field to marketing cooperatives and state stores, repair shops and so forth, will be built in a rational way within each locality and yield the highest possible returns if their construction is based on the development of the population as seen through population towers and the changes that they show to be taking place each year and in each stage within the different age groups.

The Population Tower and Party Work and the Mass Organizations

As mentioned above, a population tower is an overall picture of the population situation and the changes that occur in accordance with the laws that govern population. From the perspective of building the party, we can see from a population tower--provided that it is detailed and specific--the number of party members in relation to the total population, in general, and each specific age group in each locality. We can see how many party members over the age of 18 are youths, women, collective farmers and elders. We can also see how many of these party members possess party consciousness and what their level of education and skills are so that we can have some guarantee that they will fulfill their leadership role within the mass organizations.

From population towers, we can also begin to evaluate the working class character of the party. We can see what the class background of party members is, the population influences they have been under and the reciprocal impact they have made upon the other strata of the masses. A population tower also provides accurate information on the age of party members, on the average age of each party organization and on whether there is unnecessary interruptions or a logical continuation of succession within the basic organizations of the party. In party building, the party can utilize the building of population towers as one of the scientific bases guiding its development.

In our society, as everyone knows, the mass organizations are organized on the basis of age group and occupation. A population tower provides a real picture of the number of persons in society in each of the different age groups. It is this number that must be drawn into the mass organizations. We must endeavor to make every individual within society a member of an organization,

be they young or old, be they from the lowlands or the mountains, be they employed or unemployed, be they the follower of a religion or a member of an ethnic minority.

Through population towers, the mass organizations must first establish plans for the development of their organization in terms of both its size and quality and look ahead to future changes that relate to the level of education and occupational standards of its members, to the physiological and psychological traits of its members and to the cultural-social environment in which the persons who are currently members or will be members will live.

One of the methods employed in social management and the management of people is to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of the activities of the organizations of the party and the masses. This management work must be performed with each specific step that is taken and must take into consideration changes that are occurring and will occur within the population.

Building a population tower is a commonly used sociological method in population studies. It not only indicates the current state of the population, but also accurately forecasts essential trends of development. The country's socio-economic plan and strategy for development over the long range must begin with the building of population towers in each locality as well as for the entire nation. The formation of scientific economic thinking, the adoption of a perspective that is farsighted and broad and the rejection of the shallow, fragmented approach will gradually be accomplished through the establishment of social development plans. Success in this process cannot be achieved without establishing population towers and recognizing the changes occurring in the population in accordance with the laws that apply in our real life.

7809

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RESOURCE MATERIAL: THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF VIETNAM, FROM ONE CONGRESS TO THE NEXT

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 64-66, 75

[Unattributed article]

[Text] On 3 February 1930, the Communist Party of Vietnam was founded, thus bringing about a great turning point in the history of our country's revolution. Since then, the party has held five congresses. Each congress has been an important political event. Each has marked growth by the party and a new step forward along the path of revolution.

The 1st National Congress of Delegates

The 1st National Congress of Delegates of the Party was held in Macao, China, from 27 to 31 March 1935. Participating in the congress were 15 delegates, 12 of whom were official delegates representing the more than 600 members of party organizations at home and the party organizations operating overseas.

The congress examined the world situation, the Indochina situation and our party's situation during the years from 1932 to 1934. On this basis, it set the three main, immediate tasks of the entire party as: strengthening and developing the party; winning the support of and rallying the broad masses; and opposing imperialist wars. The congress adopted many important resolutions and adopted the statutes (amended) of the party and the statutes of the mass organizations. It ratified the declaration of the congress, a letter to the Executive Committee of the Communist International and letters to the central committees of a number of fraternal parties.

The congress elected a Party Central Committee consisting of 13 persons, including Ha Huy Tap, Phung Chi Kien, Hoang Dinh Giong...the Central Committee unanimously appointed Nguyen Ai Quoc, who was then working in the Soviet Union, as a representative of our party to the Communist International.

The 1st Congress of the Party was the congress that unified the party's organizational system from the central to the local levels, from our country to organizations overseas, that unified the revolutionary movement of each

stratum of the people under the leadership of the Party Central Committee. It created a new strength, brought renewed confidence to party members and the masses and charted the course of the revolutionary movement.

The 2nd National Congress of Delegates

The 2nd National Congress of Delegates of the Party was held from 11 to 19 February 1951 in Vinh Quang Village in Chiem Hoa District, Tuyen Quang Province (present day Ha Tuyen Province). Attending the congress were 191 delegates, 158 of whom were official delegates representing the 766,349 members of the party throughout the country. At the congress, Ton Duc Thang delivered the opening address, Ho Chi Minh delivered the Political Report, Truong Chinh delivered a report "on the Vietnamese revolution" and Le Van Luong delivered the Report on Organization and the Party Statutes.

The congress discussed and unanimously approved the important reports mentioned above.

To keep pace with the development of the revolutionary movement of each country on the Indochina peninsula, the congress decided to divide the Indochinese Communist Party into three Marxist-Leninist parties operating in the three countries of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia and decided to engage our party in overt activities and take the name Vietnam Lao Dong Party.

The congress elected the new Central Committee of the Party, which consisted of 29 persons. The Central Committee elected Ho Chi Minh party chairman and elected a Political Bureau consisting of seven official members, Ho Chi Minh, Truong Chinh, Le Duan, Pham Van Dong, Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Chi Thanh and Hoang Quoc Viet, and one alternate member, Le Van Luong.

Truong Chinh was re-elected general secretary of the Party Central Committee.

The 2nd Congress was the congress of the resistance against the French colonialists. It set forth the correct line for uniting all the people, advancing the resistance against the French colonialists and the U.S. interventionists to the resounding victory of Dien Bien Phu, restoring peace throughout Indochina and totally liberating North Vietnam.

The 3rd National Congress of Delegates

The 3rd National Congress of Delegates was held in Hanoi from 5 to 10 September 1960. Attending the congress were 576 delegates, 525 of whom were official delegates, representing more than 500,000 party members nationwide. Many delegations from fraternal parties attended the congress.

Ho Chi Minh delivered the address opening the congress. Le Duan delivered the Political Report. Le Duc Tho delivered the Report on the Revision of Party Statutes. Nguyen Duy Trinh delivered the Report on the Guidelines and Tasks of the First Five Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy (1961-1965).

The congress discussed and unanimously adopted the resolution on the lines and tasks of the party in the new stage, the guidelines and tasks of the first 5-year plan, the Party Statutes and the Appeal of the Congress.

The congress elected a Central Committee consisting of 47 official members and 31 alternate members. The Central Committee re-elected Ho Chi Minh chairman of the Central Committee and elected Le Duan 1st secretary of the Central Committee.

The Central Committee elected a Political Bureau consisting of 11 official members, Ho Chi Minh, Le Duan, Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, Pham Hung, Le Duc Tho, Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Chi Thanh, Nguyen Duy Trinh, Le Thanh Nghi...and two alternate members Tran Quoc Hoan and Van Tien Dung.

The 3rd Party Congress was the "congress of socialist construction in the North and the peaceful struggle to reunify the country." As a result of the correct line adopted by the 3rd Party Congress, our people won great victories in the cause of resisting the United States for national salvation, liberating the South and reunifying the fatherland as well as in socialist construction in the North.

The 4th National Congress of Delegates

The 4th National Congress of Delegates of the Party was held in Hanoi from 14 to 20 December 1976 against the background of aggressor forces having been completely driven from our country and the fatherland having been reunified. The congress was attended by 1,008 delegates representing more than 1.5 million party members nationwide. The congress had the honor of welcoming 29 delegations from fraternal parties and national liberation movements.

Ton Duc Thang delivered the address opening the congress. Le Duan delivered the Political Report. Pham Van Dong delivered the Report on the Main Guidelines, Tasks and Objectives of the 1976-1980 Five Year State Plan. Le Duc Tho delivered the Report Summarizing Party Building and the Revision of Party Statutes.

The congress discussed and unanimously adopted the resolutions on the above mentioned reports, adopted the Statutes (revised) of the Party and adopted the general resolution of the congress and the resolution changing the name of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party to the Communist Party of Vietnam.

The congress elected a new Central Committee consisting of 101 official members and 32 alternate members. The Central Committee elected Le Duan general secretary and elected a Political Bureau consisting of 14 official members, Le Duan, Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, Pham Hung, Le Duc Tho, Vo Nguyen Giap, Nguyen Duy Trinh, Le Thanh Nghi, Tran Quoc Hoan, Van Tien Dung, Le Van Luong, Nguyen Van Cuc, Vo Chi Cong and Chu Huy Man, and three alternate members, To Huu, Vo Van Kiet and Do Muoi.

The 4th Congress of the Party was the congress of the total victory of the cause of liberating the nation, reunifying the fatherland and advancing the entire country toward socialism. The congress reviewed the entirety of the

people's national democratic revolution in Vietnam. It presented rich, profound lessons that served to light the way for the activities of the party in the new stage of the revolution. The congress clearly defined the path of development of unified Vietnam, decided the lines, guidelines and tasks of the socialist revolution and socialist construction throughout the country and ushered in a new era in our nation's history.

The 5th National Congress of Delegates

The 5th National Congress of Delegates was held in Hanoi from 27 to 31 March 1982. It was the first congress to be convened at the time stipulated in Party Statutes.

Attending the congress were 1,033 delegates representing more than 1.7 million party members at 35,000 basic party organizations nationwide. Some 47 delegations from communist and worker parties and revolutionary organizations in the world attended the congress. The delegation representing the CPSU was headed by M.S. Gorbachev, member of the Political Bureau.

Le Duan delivered the Political Report. Pham Van Dong delivered the Report on the Main Economic and Social Guidelines, Tasks and Objectives for the 5 Years from 1981 to 1985 and the 1980's. Le Duc Tho delivered the Report on Party Building and the Revision of Party Statutes.

In a spirit of serious self-criticism and criticism, the congress discussed, evaluated and deeply analyzed every aspect of the country's situation since the 4th Congress, pointed out the achievements recorded by our people and pointed out the difficulties being faced together with the shortcomings committed by our party. The congress established the two strategic tasks of our country's revolution as building socialism and defending the socialist fatherland. On this basis, it set four main socio-economic development targets for the initial stage of the period of transition in our country.

The congress elected a new Central Committee consisting of 116 official members and 36 alternate members. The Central Committee re-elected Le Duan general secretary and elected a Political Bureau consisting of 13 official members, Le Duan, Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, Pham Hung, Le Duc Tho, Van Tien Dung, Vo Chi Cong, Chu Huy Man, To Huu, Vo Van Kiet, Do Muoi, Le Duc Anh and Nguyen Duc Tam, and two alternate members, Nguyen Co Thach and Dong Si Nguyen.

The 5th Congress marked a strong change by our party in terms of its ability to lead and organize the performance of socio-economic tasks, the quality of the corps of cadres and party members and the close relationship between the party and the working class and all laboring people.

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COMBINING TRANSFORMATION WITH CONSTRUCTION IN THE PROCESS OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVIZATION IN TIEN GIANG

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 67-70, 96

[Article by Nguyen Trong Phuc]

[Text] Prior to liberation, agricultural production in Tien Giang Province had begun to assume the characteristics of capitalist commodity production. In the countryside, middle farmers made up the majority of the population (68-70 percent). Wealthy farmers and rural bourgeoisie were the direct exploiters. However, the force that controlled the most was the rural bourgeoisie. These being its special characteristics, Tien Giang waged an arduous struggle, was tested in many ways, tested at every step and challenged in practice and virtually completed agricultural cooperativization in 1984. By the start of 1986, the province had established 120 cooperatives and 2,116 production collectives, thereby bringing 93.3 percent of farm households and 94.7 percent of the land used to raise rice into collective production. Inspections conducted to evaluate and classify these units show that 25.2 percent of these cooperatives are advanced cooperatives, 41 are above average cooperatives, 28.5 percent are average cooperatives and 4.4 percent are weak and deficient cooperatives. Some 13 percent of production collectives are advanced production collectives, 31 percent are above average, 37.1 percent are average and 18.3 percent are weak and deficient. The income per workday of cooperative and collective members is 37 kilograms of paddy where income is the highest, 15 kilograms where average income is earned and as much as 7 kilograms where the lowest income is earned.

The agricultural cooperativization movement in Tien Giang has developed in a stable and wholesome manner as a result of knowing how to closely combine transformation and construction, with efforts focused on stimulating the strong development of agricultural production, considering this to be both the objective of and the driving force behind the development of the movement.

Through the pilot project conducted to build the Tan Hoi and Phu Quoi Cooperatives during the years from 1977 to 1980, it was found that because the material-technical bases of the cooperatives were very weak, because the contract mechanism within cooperatives was not providing the laborer with incentive to work hard for the collective, because the ability of cooperative cadres to manage and coordinate was poor and because the mass of cooperative

members did not yet possess a full sense of collective ownership, the production of the cooperative seriously declined, cooperative members encountered difficulties in their everyday lives and cooperatives were in danger of being disbanded. The province persisted in its effort to strengthen the pilot project cooperatives. At the same time, it actively prepared the conditions for establishing a number of cooperatives in Binh Tay, Binh Nhi, Tan My Chanh, Binh Phu, Than Cuu Chau... As a result of making good preparations and taking the correct approach, these cooperatives have made progress in many areas, developed production, achieved high productivity, improved the living conditions of cooperative members and drawn large numbers of farmers to collective production.

In conjunction with expanding the cooperativization movement, Tien Giang has also focused its efforts on guiding the widespread application of scientific-technical advances in production, especially at cooperatives and production collectives. The movement to apply science and technology in production began with the birth of hundreds of teams producing seed of new rice varieties, teams built around farmers who are skilled rice growers and assisted by the agricultural colleges. The province's plan called for introducing new varieties of rice in production on 60 percent of the land under the cultivation of rice by 1981. However, by 1980, 100 percent of old rice varieties had been replaced with new varieties. New varieties of rice and advanced intensive cultivation techniques rapidly raised the rice yields and output of cooperatives, production collectives and the entire province, thereby creating enthusiasm and confidence among farmers. The popularization of scientific and technical knowledge among farmers has had the effect of changing old attitudes and work habits while establishing advanced farming methods consistent with the process of reorganizing production within agriculture.

The province attached importance to the building of water conservancy projects at the very outset. In Tien Giang, some 60 percent of farmland was once rather heavily contaminated with sulfates and salt and many areas lacked fresh water during the dry season. The province has built thousands of large and small canals and ditches and combined the improvement of field surfaces with the construction of systems of area and plot embankments in order to provide effective irrigation and drainage, leach sulfates from the soil in the three western districts of the province and gradually establish sources of fresh water with which to provide effective irrigation during the dry season to the three eastern districts of the province. As a result of the development of water conservancy, the cultivation of floating rice in the northern portions of Cai Be and Cai Lay Districts was stopped and all farmland in the province, which was previously only used to raise one crop, became cropland on which two to three rice crops or two rice crops and one subsidiary food crop, even two rice crops and two subsidiary food crops, are being raised per year. Reorganizing production along collective lines both raised the need and created the conditions for mobilizing manpower and materials to successfully solve the problem of water conservancy in agriculture. Conversely, as a result of building water conservancy systems, intensive cultivation, multicropping and the use of new varieties were promoted, the development of production was stimulated and a base was established for the steady advance of the cooperativization movement. Clearly, the development of water conservancy

within agriculture is "the most necessary thing of all; it will rebuild the soil and water sources, bring the country back to life, bury the past and consolidate the gains made in the transition to socialism."(1)

Not much has been done yet by way of building the material-technical bases of the cooperatives and production collectives in Tien Giang Province. However, existing bases are being utilized well, including the system of drying yards and granaries, even with product contracts being used. In the high yield rice growing area, some 18,000 square meters of drying yards and granaries have been constructed. The mechanized draft power of the collective economy has increased by 1,500 horsepower. The fixed assets of cooperatives account for roughly 50 percent of their total capital. The cropland of cooperatives is used 1.82 times per year.

Since the issuance of Directive 100 of the Secretariat (5th Central Committee), all cooperatives and production collectives in Tien Giang have creatively applied and gradually supplemented the product contract mechanism within agriculture. Through the implementation of this contract mechanism, the new production relations in Tien Giang have been strengthened from the standpoint of ownership, management and distribution without one setback, not even a temporary setback. Product contracts, which represent a basic step forward in improving the management mechanism, have had the effect of causing agricultural production in Tien Giang to develop strongly and steadily.

The high yield rice growing area of Tien Giang encompasses 50,000 hectares (nearly one-half the total farmland of the province), 40,000 hectares of which produce a yield of 10 tons per hectare per year. This high yield rice growing area made important contributions to raising the province's rice output from 370,000 tons in 1976 to 813,570 tons in 1985 (a more than two-fold increase). Some three-fourths of the province's cooperatives and more than one-half of its production collectives are located within the province's high yield rice growing area. This shows that the results of socialist transformation at places where high yield rice growing areas are established exceed the results achieved at other places. The new production relations have also enabled the province to plan and establish a high yield rice growing area that is large and stable.

The socialist transformation of agriculture in Tien Giang has been closely tied to the process of building the new countryside, looking after the needs of cultural and educational development and improving the material and cultural lives of farmers. Since Tien Giang embarked on the cooperativization movement, the face of the countryside and every aspect of the life of the farmer has undergone many changes within the province. In the province's high yield rice growing area alone, 400 kilometers of new rural roads and many bridges have been constructed, thus making for convenient travel and reducing the distance between hamlets and villages. Schools have been opened for an additional 64,000 students. Theaters and cultural halls have been constructed at many places. Fifty additional maternity clinics and public health stations have been built in the countryside. More than 10,000 farm households have built new homes despite the very serious shortage of building materials. While these results are not commensurate with the development of production, it is clear that the majority of these gains have been brought about by the

collective economy. The new road system, the improvement in cultural life and the level of education and the steady changes occurring in the face of the countryside are of extremely important significance in transforming all backward attitudes and habits, bringing farmers to collective production and building their confidence in the future. Socialist transformation within agriculture has had a profound impact politically, culturally, socially, etc.

The agricultural cooperativization movement in Tien Giang has drawn large numbers of farmers into cooperatives and production collectives. However, there are still more than a few problems that must be solved in order to continuously improve the quality of operation of cooperatives and production collectives.

The cooperativization movement was only completed a little more than 1 year ago. Not much has been done to build the material-technical bases of cooperatives and production collectives. Generally speaking, these bases are still weak and do not insure the development of production in depth. Even at advanced cooperatives, such material-technical bases as drying yards, granaries, tractors, draft buffalo and cattle, pumps, rice threshing machines, means of transportation, welfare projects and so forth are in very short supply and are not being used with high efficiency. At average and weak units, the supply of material-technical bases is almost insignificant. This weakness in material-technical bases is partially the result of the failure of the locality (both the province and the district) to make appropriate investments in collective economic units. In recent years, Tien Giang has invested 30 dong in material-technical bases per hectare of farmland. Practically all of this meager amount of investment capital has been invested in water conservancy. On the other hand, the units of the collective economy still practice the monoculture of rice and have not developed a diversified agriculture or expanded the trades; therefore, there are even fewer sources of capital for building material-technical bases.

Rapidly building material-technical bases is a pressing immediate and long-range requirement, the aim of which is to insure that cooperatives and production collectives achieve high productivity and economic efficiency in their production. The province's policy for the years ahead is to try to provide a full supply of materials for production under economic contracts between the state and cooperatives and production collectives. At the same time, it will rapidly increase the amount of capital invested in the completion of water conservancy projects, the improvement of fields in coordination with the construction of rural roads and in supplying additional machinery and tools of all types, with priority given to selling building materials and loaning capital at low interest rates to cooperatives so that they can build material-technical bases.

Increasing the number of scientific and technical cadres on the basic level is also an objective and pressing demand of cooperatives and production collectives. At present, not one cooperative or production collective in Tien Giang has an agricultural scientific-technical cadre. Meanwhile, Tien Giang (mainly on the provincial level) has hundreds of engineers and middle level, agricultural technical cadres who are not working directly on the basic level. Scientific and technical cadres do not have close ties to basic production

units because they fear difficulties and hardships, but because the policy on the utilization of these cadres is irrational and because a rather large number of basic units do not realize the full role that scientific and technical cadres play in production. The province is sending scientific and technical cadres down to basic units. However, to resolve this problem on a long-term basis, the cooperatives must take the initiative and send persons to agricultural colleges and middle schools who return to work in the locality upon their graduation. This will help agricultural scientific and technical cadres feel secure about working at basic units on a permanent basis and will not increase the staff of the state within the agricultural sector.

The quality and efficiency of the production and business of collective economic units are dependent, to a large degree, upon the standards, capabilities and qualities of management cadres, especially cooperative directors, the heads of collectives and production unit chiefs. The experience of Tien Giang shows that in every unit that has a corps of dynamic, resourceful, creative and dedicated cadres who possess the spirit of responsibility, production is strongly developed, the right of ownership of the laborer is upheld, the masses feel a close allegiance to the collective, the standard of living is improved, obligations to the state are fulfilled and good economic relations are maintained with the state. The realities of the Binh Tay Cooperative, the Binh Nhi Cooperative, the Tan My Chanh Cooperative, the Tan Hoi Cooperative, the Than Ouu Nghia Cooperative, Long An Village Collective Number 1...have proven this. In weak and deficient units, the common problem is that cadres lack the necessary education, lack the necessary economic management and scientific-technical qualifications and their personal qualities have usually degraded to the point where they are irresponsible, bureaucratic and arrogant, where they intimidate the masses, disregard discipline and the law and drink to excess. These phenomena still exist because "the corps of cadres and party members on the basic level has not been trained or assigned in a manner commensurate with a broad revolutionary movement and has not fully upheld the right of collective ownership of the laboring people." (2) To correct these shortcomings, the province is determined to take action against and replace those cadres who are weak from the standpoint of their abilities and personal qualities. On the other hand, it will actively provide cadres with all the knowledge required under the new management mechanism. The province's cooperative management cadre school will train cooperative and production collective cadres. However, of decisive importance is the need to build a dependable corps of cadres at each basic production unit by selecting persons for this corps from within the mass movement.

Another limitation of the agricultural cooperativization movement in Tien Giang is the failure to establish uniformity among collective economic units. Besides the many units that are above average and excellent, there are still more than a few weak and deficient units that are operating at a loss, particularly production collectives. At present, as many as 400 production collectives are weak and deficient because their material-technical bases are woefully inadequate, their natural conditions are unfavorable, their size is too small, their farmland is fragmented and they are still confused and ineffective in their management, using primarily non-specific contracts and practicing the monoculture of rice. To correct these shortcomings, the

province and the districts are sending cadres to weak and deficient production collectives to strengthen and improve the quality of the operations of these units. The efforts to strengthen and improve the quality of the operation of basic production units are directed toward formulating accurate plans from the basic level upward, expanding and improving the product contract mechanism, ending the use of non-specific contracts, developing a diversified agriculture and general business, expanding joint businesses and economic ties and gradually making the shift to economic accounting and socialist business practices. At present, strengthening and improving the quality of the operation of the weak and deficient production collectives is the central task in the cooperativization movement of Tien Giang.

FOOTNOTES

1. V.I. Lenin: "Collected Works," Progress Publishers, Moscow, 1978, Volume 43, p 239.
2. Excerpt from letter from the Party Central Committee to the party organization and people of Tien Giang on 1 January 1985 on the occasion of Tien Giang's virtual completion of agricultural cooperativization.

7809

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HO CHI MINH CITY STEPS UP SMALL INDUSTRY AND HANDICRAFT PRODUCTION

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 71-75

[Article by Tran Xuan]

[Text] Small industry and handicraft production is one of the strengths of Ho Chi Minh City. It is characterized by the rich, diverse development of sectors and trades. Some sectors and trades have reached a rather high level of technical development and are advanced in terms of their production experience. Small industry and handicraft production is closely related to the industrial production, to the exports and imports of the city. It also has close ties to the prosperous agricultural, forestry and fishing areas of the Mekong Delta, eastern Nam Bo, southern Trung Bo, the Central Highlands and so forth.

Defining the small industry and handicraft sector as a strength within the city's economic structure and establishing its important task within the city's strategy for socio-economic development have created the conditions for small industry and handicraft production to develop strongly and produce a wide variety of products to serve the needs of consumers, the needs of production and export needs while providing jobs for more than 170,000 laborers. In 1985, the city's small industry and handicraft sector produced 14.6 billion dong in total output value (computed at 1982 fixed prices), an increase of 17.4 percent over 1984 and 47 percent of the value of the city's total industrial output. The sector delivered 11.6 billion dong worth of products to the state (78.85 percent of the value of its total output) and exported goods worth 2 billion dong (32.13 percent more than planned).

Why has Ho Chi Minh City's small industry and handicraft sector, even though it has encountered many difficulties as have the other sectors of the economy, not only been able to maintain production, but also to steadily develop production, annually supply to society a large volume of consumer goods, some means of production and export goods and provide constant work to cooperative and team members and also absorb much new labor? It is because small industry and handicraft cooperatives have, under the light of the resolution of the 8th Party Plenum and encouraged by the new economic policies of the party and state on the central and local levels, truly displayed dynamism and creativity in resolving their difficulties, have begun to dismantle the management mechanism based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies and shift to

economic accounting and socialist business practices and have gradually achieved autonomy in their production and business.

Due to the characteristics of the organization and management of the collective economic sector, the management mechanism of small industry and the handicraft trades has always been relatively flexible. However, the sector has not been able to avoid the influences of management based on bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies. Therefore, the first step that had to be taken was to create every possible condition for cooperatives and production cooperation teams to achieve autonomy in their production and business in order to develop each potential and strongly develop production in the correct direction.

Encountering major difficulties in production, some economic sectors and more than a few state-operated industrial enterprises were caught unprepared, were confused concerning the direction to be taken in their production and business. Their production was unstable, their output was declining, etc. In the face of this situation, in order to maintain and develop their production, to maintain and increase the income of the laborer, many cooperatives and production cooperation teams took the initiative and adopted production guidelines and plans consistent with the overall planning of their economic-technical sector. They also took the initiative in deciding their own size and their form and mode of management and began to achieve financial autonomy and autonomy in the use of the unit's labor. These production guidelines and plans have been revised by basic units to remain consistent with market needs and production capabilities while moving in the direction of diversifying the product line under the requirements that "small industry be modern, the handicraft trades be skilled."

The city's small industry and handicraft sector has implemented a flexible planning mechanism, introduced indirect planning to augment direct planning and formulates plans from the basic unit upward through economic contracts and on the basis of existing production potentials plus efforts to develop the potentials lying in many other supply sources. Direct planning through economic contracts with state-operated economic organizations on the sale of raw materials and the procurement of the finished products produced from these materials (or processing contracts with central or local state-operated economic units) causes production to develop and remain stable when the state provides an adequate supply of materials but causes production to stagnate and decline when supply capabilities are limited. This mode does not develop the autonomy or tap the creativity of the basic unit. On the other hand, negative phenomena arise in the course of its implementation.

Under present conditions, using indirect planning to augment direct planning is necessary because it both permits and demands that the associations of interbranch cooperatives of the districts, precincts and subwards and the basic production units display a high degree of dynamism, flexibility and creativity in their management, open new sources of supplies, materials and capital and take the initiative in establishing rational product plans for themselves. Under this mode, basic production units must also find their own customers, sign economic contracts based on their production conditions and capacity and develop existing capabilities and potentials in order to obtain,

on their own, the supplies and raw materials needed to fulfill their production plan in accordance with the contracts they sign. Since 1980, when the state began experiencing increasing difficulties supplying materials, this mode has had an increasing impact and been an important factor guaranteeing that basic production units meet and exceed their yearly plan quotas. At present, more than 70 percent of the value of the total small industry and handicraft output of the city is produced through this mode.

To support small industry and handicraft production units, a system of services was established and rapidly began making an impact. The city's small industry and handicraft supply corporation and the supply stations of the districts, precincts and subwards have the task of providing supplies and raw materials to basic production units by means of joint businesses and economic ties with associated units, by procuring raw materials and scrap materials, by organizing the planting of raw material crops in the districts in the outskirts of the city, etc. Thanks to the establishment of this service system, basic units can engage in production free from worry and need not "run around" obtaining supplies and raw materials on their own, which avoids the negative phenomena that arise in this process. The system of Association of Interbranch Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperative Stores which consists of one central store and 14 precinct and district stores, serves as a link between producers and consumers. These stores introduce products of small industry and the handicraft trades, survey the needs and tastes of the market and both market and arrange for the marketing of products. At the same time, they evaluate the quality of products through the opinions of their customers. The customer conferences held by the city's Association of Interbranch Cooperatives and the associations of the precincts and districts each year have played a good role in inspecting the results of production activities, inspecting product quality, reflecting the needs of the market, etc.

The ability of basic units to mobilize capital has reached a high level of development. This capital includes capital acquired by the units themselves, capital borrowed from the bank, capital obtained through the exportation of goods for the purpose of importing equipment and raw materials and idle capital among cadres and cooperative members, which is mobilized at a reasonable rate of interest in order to develop production. In 1985, 31,237 economic contracts worth 22,105,000,000 were signed between basic production units and customers. The products produced under these contracts amounted to 76 percent of the value of the sector's total output for the entire year. At present, more and more contracts are being signed for the procurement of products at negotiated prices. The products of the city's small industry and handicraft sector marketed through state-operated commerce and marketing cooperatives, which amount to 80 percent of the value of the sector's total output, are a significant source of products supplementing the organized market, even though supplies and raw materials must be obtained mainly by the basic units themselves. The use of indirect planning to augment direct planning demands and creates the conditions for basic production units to display a high degree of dynamism and creativity in production and management so that they can develop each capability and potential.

Together with establishing the production and business autonomy of the basic unit, the Ho Chi Minh City Party Committee and People's Committee and the

Central Association of Interbranch Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives have also taken positive steps to revamp the small industry and handicraft management mechanism. A number of specific policies and procedures have been revised or established. For example, the prices paid for contract work, product procurement prices and industrial and commercial tax rates have been revised with a view toward encouraging basic units to develop their production. The wage policy of cadres and personnel within the sector has been improved. The wage scale for contract workers and the wage ceilings for the various worker grades have been revised. Guidance has been provided to solve the problem of cash for basic production units that have a large volume of goods and produce export goods. Policies have been adopted that provide incentive for production by self-employed persons, private production units and the household economy. A policy concerning entertainers has been promulgated. The associations of interbranch cooperatives have been guided in formulating production plans that take into consideration each production cost factor and item and guided in initial efforts to correctly calculate all reasonable production costs for a number of handicraft art products and goods produced under contract. Here, we have reduced management costs and "negative costs" as much as possible and accelerated the application of scientific and technical advances in production in order to raise labor productivity and reduce production costs. Thanks to the concern and timely guidance of the Municipal Party Committee, Municipal People's Committee and the Association of Interbranch Small Industry and Handicraft Cooperatives, basic production units have found ways consistent with their own conditions and circumstances to effectively overcome their difficulties in order to maintain and develop production and create work for laborers. The model in this area is the city's handicraft textile sector, which has obtained supplies and raw materials on its own and exceeded the plan by 27 million meters of cloth. In their execution of economic contracts, advanced cooperatives and model subward have made use of the strength of small industry and handicraft production that lies in its flexibility and the quickness with which it can meet requirements. They have taken the initiative in signing both short-term and long-term contracts. The direct and timely support of the state-operated economy by the socialist collective economy has helped these economic units to meet and exceed their state plan quotas.

Developing production in a manner closely tied to transforming, reorganizing and restructuring production is also a matter that has been given full attention by the small industry and handicraft sector of Ho Chi Minh City. The purposes of reorganizing and restructuring production by economic-technical sector are to develop the forces of small industry and handicraft production and make full use of production capacity in accordance with planning. The reorganizing and restructuring of production are being carried out along specialized, cooperative lines in a manner closely linked to state-operated industry through a variety of forms of organization, such as establishing satellites of state-operated enterprises and participating in a product group headed by a state-operated enterprise. All scales of production are being combined: large, medium, small and household. At the same time, planning, quality control and supply, material and price ceilings have been gradually improved. The reorganizing and restructuring of production has now been virtually completed in key production sectors, such as the textile, tailoring, wood processing, paper, pottery-ceramic, glass and bicycle sectors.

The objectives in the socialist transformation of small industry and the handicraft trades are to bring small industry and handicraft laborers into collective production, collectivize the means of production, reduce and eventually eliminate exploitation and open the way for production forces to undergo strong development in the direction of socialism. On this basis, it is necessary to gradually consolidate and strengthen the new production relations in three areas: ownership, management and distribution. The specifics involved in transformation are closely linked to reorganizing and restructuring production, improving management and promoting the scientific-technological revolution. The comrades in Ho Chi Minh City have attached importance to improving the quality of the cooperativization movement by consolidating cooperatives and gradually upgrading cooperatives to high level cooperatives while applying policies that give preference to high level cooperatives. Many advanced, model cooperatives have been built that are strong enough to draw private handicraftsmen to collective production. Positive steps have been taken to strengthen production cooperation teams and gradually upgrade them to cooperatives. The formation of a relatively complete system of small industry and handicraft management organizations extending from the municipal to the precinct, district, subward and village levels has made positive contributions to the development of small industry and handicraft production and the socialist transformation of this sector. As of 1985, the city had more than 600 cooperatives (74 of which were high level cooperatives) and more than 3,600 production teams representing 125,000 laborers, or 77.2 percent of the small industry and handicraft labor within the city. In addition, 11,460 basic production units and units within the household economy are gradually being restructured as satellites working under contract for state-operated enterprises, joint public-private enterprises, joint enterprises and marketing cooperatives in a multi-layer, multi-scale industry. The organization of the associations of interbranch cooperatives has been continuously strengthened and developed and these associations have been playing a better role with each passing day.

However, there are still problems in Ho Chi Minh City's small industry and handicraft production that need to be resolved. The pace of development is not commensurate with potentials. Management loopholes and lax management have allowed some sectors and trades to explode in a spontaneous fashion and develop in the wrong direction, which has led to competition for supplies and materials among basic production units. Goods produced and marketed by units themselves still make up a large percentage of the total volume of products. Generally speaking, the quality of some products is still poor because more than a few basic production units continue to chase after profits without giving much attention to quality. Defective products and fake goods remain a problem. Some exported traditional handicraft art products do not meet specifications, etc.

The potentials of small industry and handicraft production in Ho Chi Minh City are still very large. Management cadres and cooperative members are dynamic and creative and work hard to overcome each difficulty in order to step up production. Therefore, to encourage basic production units to rapidly increase their output, quickly improve their product quality and meet domestic and export needs better with each passing day, revised small industry and handicraft cooperative statutes must be adopted at an early date. At the same

time, there must be changes in both our thinking and the way we provide guidance. Economic leverage policies must be enacted with the aim of creating the conditions for small industry and handicraft units to achieve autonomy in their production and business as well as absorb much more social labor in production and endeavor to raise the level of development of production and increase their production capacity in line with the requirement that "small industry be modern, the handicraft trades be skilled."

7809

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THE CHAU GIANG COOPERATIVE

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 76-79

[Article by Nguyen Van The, secretary of the Chau Giang Village Party Committee]

[Text] The Chau Giang Cooperative was formed in 1976 through the merger of the Trac But and Chuyen Noi Cooperatives in Duy Tien District, Ha Nam Ninh Province. Following 10 years of struggling to build itself, the Chau Giang Cooperative has recorded comprehensive achievements and was commended by the Council of State as an Heroic Labor Unit on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of National Day, 2 September.

On the basis of the realities of the production and business activities of the Chau Giang Cooperative, we hereby boldly present a number of experiences:

Reorganizing Production, Gradually Building a Rational Economic Structure and Effectively Developing the Potentials that Lie in Land and Labor

The merger into a cooperative encompassing two villages created for our Chau Giang Cooperative new, favorable conditions in terms of land and labor (960 hectares of farmland, 4,500 laborers) for developing production. The cooperative, however, also faced many difficulties. It was our thinking that, in view of the conditions existing in this lowlying, densely populated area, the pressing problems we faced were to quickly shift agricultural production away from the monoculture of rice and to a general business encompassing rice, subsidiary food crops and industrial crops, develop livestock production, expand the trades, particularly trades of value from the standpoint of exports, and combine providing jobs locally with sending persons to build new economic zones.

During the very first years of its existence, by achieving a high level of intensive cultivation of grain crops, primarily rice, our cooperative established a stable standard of eating for the people, stabilized contributions to the state and boldly shifted some land once previously used exclusively in the cultivation of rice to the cultivation of industrial crops, thereby establishing a local source of raw materials for the development of the trades, while gradually building a rational economic structure that yields high economic returns.

The formation of this new economic structure demanded that the labor force of the cooperative be restructured. After considering all possibilities, the cooperative found that it could only provide regular work for 2,500 laborers (2,000 additional laborers would be unemployed). This was a very difficult problem. It was also the key factor in freeing the Chau Giang Cooperative from poverty. Recognizing this problem and adopting a correct policy at an early date, the Chau Giang party organization has successfully carried out a local redistribution of labor closely tied to sending persons to build new economic zones. During the past 10 years, as a result of good organization and properly prepared conditions, more than 5,000 citizens of Chau Giang (50 percent of the village's population) have eagerly gone off to earn their livings in new villages in the northwest, the Central Highlands and the Mekong Delta. A close relationship between the persons who left and those who have remained behind has been built on the basis of economic ties: the persons who moved to Hoang Lien Son Province regularly supply tre bamboo, nua bamboo, rattan and giang bamboo to the cooperative for the production of export goods. Conversely, our cooperative supplies them with necessary products. This relationship is not only a matter of economic ties between two villages, but has also created the conditions for labor to be redistributed within Chau Giang itself.

To do this, the Chau Giang Cooperative stepped up the development of the trades in the direction of closely combining the full development of the strengths of local traditional trades, such as the production of bricks, tiles and lime, carpentry, masonry and so forth, with boldly introducing a number of new trades, such as the weaving of jute rugs, the weaving of gunny sacks, the production of thatch, rattan, tre bamboo and giang bamboo blinds for exportation...

The strong development of the trade sector, particularly the production of export goods, in Chau Giang has generated significant sources of income for the collective and household economies. In 1985, the value of the Chau Giang Cooperative's export goods amounted to more than 30 percent of the total value of the exports of Duy Tien District. At present, the cooperative has nearly 2,000 laborers working in the trades. They make up 40 percent of the cooperative's total labor force (the crop production sector currently accounts for more than 50 percent of the labor force and 46 percent of the cooperative's total income). As a result of upgrading the trade sector to a main production sector, Chau Giang has not only truly abandoned the monoculture of rice, but has also established a rational economic structure, one within which agriculture has been closely tied to the handicraft trades within the cooperative and its households from the very outset and production is closely tied to processing and a general business that yields high economic returns. The cooperative's total income rose from 2.3 million dong in 1978 to 36 million dong in 1984. The income of the crop production sector rose from 1.4 million dong to nearly 17 million dong. The income of the trade sector rose from 375,000 dong to nearly 17 million dong. From subsistent monoculture, Chau Giang has advanced to commodity production. The value of the goods produced by the cooperative rose from only 985,000 dong in 1978 to 17 million dong in 1984. Its exports rose from 190,000 dong to 10 million dong. But the collective does not only earn profits from the trade sector and its service business. In recent years, many main crops, such as rice,

sugarcane, jute and so forth, have also produced significant profits. In 1984, total profits earned by the cooperative reached 6.3 million dong(*) (many times higher than in 1978).

With production having developed, the collective has accumulated more and more capital (15 to 25 percent of total income), thus making it possible to expand material-technical bases, carrying out comprehensive economic, cultural and social development and building the new countryside.

Focusing Investments on the Construction of Material-Technical Bases

During the past 10 years, our cooperative has constructed many welfare projects, expanded many production units and purchased much machinery and many implements, including 5 large tractors, 30 Lotus Blossom tractors, hundreds of oxcarts with inflatable tires, 2 self-propelled barges with a capacity of 160 tons, 2,600 improved vehicles, etc. In 1984, the total capital of the cooperative reached 22.7 million dong, 16.1 million dong of which were acquired by the cooperative itself. The cooperative's fixed assets are worth 7.64 million dong. These material bases have been thoroughly utilized for many years and quickly returned the capital invested in them. Deserving of attention among the material-technical bases we have constructed are the water conservancy projects within fields that were completed immediately after the merger and which have played a major role in intensive cultivation and in the improvement of fields. The people of Chau Giang worked more than 1 million mandays to dig and spread nearly 1 million cubic meters of dirt to augment or construct 23 canals and ditches (level III canals with one canal, one embankment and one small path for improved vehicles and level II canals with one canal and two paths for tractors); build 53 bridges, 12 of which are large enough to accommodate tractors; build 2 electric pump stations with a total capacity of 12,000 cubic meters per hour, etc. The total capital invested in water conservancy projects exceeds 2 million dong.

Thanks to the construction of these water conservancy projects, our cooperative has effective irrigation and drainage on 85 percent of its land.

Along with the process of completing the water conservancy system, we have mechanized the preparation of soil on more than 95 percent of our land (the cooperative's tractor unit has four MTZ-50's and one DT-75). The cooperative has also invested thousands of tons of lime and phosphorus and spread duckweed on 80 to 90 percent of its fields, thereby thoroughly improving our phosphorus deficient, muddy soil. As a result, the cooperative was able to establish a rational allocation of crops with planting formulas that yield high economic returns and put the jute plant, which is native to silt fields, under cultivation in our area of lowlying land. Today, the cooperative has 100 hectares of jute (raised under a rotation cultivation formula of four crops in three seasons: soybeans as a companion crop with jute, late 10th month rice and western potatoes). Each year, we harvest 300 tons of jute fiber, 270 tons of rice, 800 tons of western potatoes and 48 tons of soybeans. The returns from 1 hectare cultivated in this manner are many times higher than the returns per hectare when we practiced the monoculture of rice.

However, even more important is the fact that the jute plant provides the cooperative with a local supply of raw materials with which to expand the weaving of jute rugs for exportation.

Along with other intensive cultivation measures, we have introduced an appropriate assortment of rice varieties in fields and raised the yield of rice from 3.4 tons per hectare in 1978 to 8.4 tons per hectare in 1983. As a result of increases in both yield and output, Chau Giang achieved a per capita grain output of 580 kilograms in 1983 and has annually mobilized from 1,000 to 1,400 tons of grain for the state (three times more than during the first year following the merger). Today, Chau Giang's average rice yield exceeds 10 tons per hectare.

At present, 95 percent of the cooperative member families live in a home with a tile roof and meet the standards of a family of the new culture. Each year, the cooperative provides to the 600 children at its child care centers 24 tons of rice, 4 tons of sugar, 1.5 tons of meat, 4 tons of soybeans and 24,000 eggs, which enables it to provide children of three different age groups with three different diets. In 1984, the Chau Giang Cooperative implemented a social insurance policy for cooperative members who reach retirement age. In 1985, 1,500 cooperative members were receiving retirement pensions totalling more than 1 million dong (in old bank money).

Chau Giang Has a Solid and Strong Village Party Organization and a Corps of Zealous, Highly Experienced Cadres Who Unite With the People in Building the Cooperative and Building the New, Socialist Countryside

The realities of the past 10 years in Chau Giang prove that the comprehensive achievements and the growth of the cooperative originate in the strength of the direct and comprehensive leadership provided by the village's party organization, a solid and strong party organization. In Chau Giang, the strength of the party organization's leadership is the strength of each party chapter, particularly the production unit party chapters.

Our Chau Giang party organization realizes that whether the cooperative's production and business organization is strong depends, to a large degree, upon the management skills of production unit cadres. We have focused every effort on improving the ability of party chapters to organize and guide, particularly the ability of production unit cadres to manage and coordinate. We have clearly defined the responsibilities of production units in guiding, inspecting and supervising cooperative member households in the formulation and implementation of production and business plans of the cooperative. We have also increased the assistance provided by the collective to each cooperative member household, not only from the standpoint of politics and ideology, but also material assistance, such as loans of capital and supplies in order to increase production. In Chau Giang, together with the development of the collective economy, the cooperative member household economy has also developed strongly. When each cooperative member family has been distributed enough to eat and receives sufficient money to cover expenses, contracts are settled fairly and debts are fairly paid to the cooperative (for the past several seasons, no products have had to be withheld). This is an important material factor in the creation of a close bond between the party and the

masses, between cooperative members and the cooperative and is also a force encouraging everyone to work hard in production. Moreover, in view of the fact that Catholics account for more than 40 percent of our locality's population, without strong party chapters, without exemplary party members, without cadres who are devoted and wholeheartedly serve the interests of the collective, we could not implement the party's policy on religion well or unite the religious and the non-religious in order to build the new, socialist countryside. Chau Giang has established mass organizations in the various parishes. Through the production emulation movement, many cooperative members who are Catholics have been trained as cadres and party members. There are party chapters in all the parishes. At present, the secretary of the village party committee, the village public security chief, the deputy cooperative director in charge of crop production, the chief of the planning section, a member of the standing committee of the people's committee, the head of the village chapter of the Women's Union and other persons come from Catholic families. In addition to building strong party chapters, building strong mass organizations and uniting all the people, the Chau Giang party organization has attached very much importance to training the corps of cadres under the guideline "the state and the people working together." In addition to opening a work-study middle school within the village to raise the level of education of cadres, party members and cooperative members, Chau Giang has also sent persons to study at a number of agricultural technical colleges, middle schools and elementary schools. Today, the cooperative has six economic, mechanical, livestock and crop production engineers and 100 middle and elementary level cadres. Some 90 percent of the cadres performing economic work within the cooperative have a general middle school education. The cooperative's corps of key cadres currently consists of elderly as well as young persons, of persons who were trained at formal schools as well as persons who have grown and matured within the production movement. This corps is a very valuable asset, is the decisive factor in the steady advance of Chau Giang's movement.

During the past 10 years, our cooperative has recorded a number of initial achievements in every field. But besides these achievements, we also have shortcomings and weaknesses. The Chau Giang Cooperative's level of intensive cultivation is showing signs of ceasing to rise at a time when the rice yields of a number of other cooperatives within the district have risen to levels higher than ours. Some households within the cooperative are still encountering difficulties in their everyday lives. With regard to living conditions and cultural activities, many essential needs of the people are not being met... Despite its high honor of being awarded the title Heroic Labor Unit by the state, our cooperative is not complacent, is not satisfied with what it has achieved. In the years ahead, we must endeavor to rapidly introduce scientific and technical advances in agriculture, achieve a new quality of intensive cultivation and raise crop and livestock yields. At the same time, we must expand and strongly develop the trade sector, particularly the export trades, in order to increase the cooperative's income and contribute more and more to the cause of building socialism and defending the fatherland.

FOOTNOTES

* Values for 1984 and previous years are calculated in old money.

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THE FACE OF THE 567TH REGIMENT

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 80-83, 106

[Article by Nhat Tan]

[Text] Feats of Arms in the New Fight

Today, in the war to defend the fatherland against the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists, our army has new heroic units. Through their resounding feats of arms, these units have raised Vietnamese revolutionary heroism to a new level. The 567th Regiment is one of these units.

The 567th Regiment came into being as the general offensive in the spring of 1975 was approaching total victory. As soon as it was established, which occurred amidst the intense atmosphere surrounding the liberation of the South, the regiment urgently set about training thousands of cadres and soldiers to promptly go to the South and join in the fight. When the South was completely liberated and the country was reunified, the regiment was shifted to economic construction work. Whether blasting rocks, building roads, building dams or bridges, planting forests and so forth, the regiment has excellently completed every task. In only 2 months of economic work, the regiment earned for the state nearly 2 million dong.

Shortly after peace was restored, when the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists began making trouble and seemed eager to invade our country, the regiment was put on combat alert duty. On 17 February 1979, in Cao Bang Province, the regiment promptly opened fire, killing Chinese forces as they swarmed into our country. In 12 days and nights of tenacious fighting against two enemy divisions, the regiment killed 6,060 enemy troops, took 9 prisoners, set 60 tanks and other military vehicles afire and confiscated or destroyed many means of war. This maiden battle made the regiment famous. With that, the regiment became an independent unit of a main force military corps performing a mobile combat mission.

In February 1985, the regiment was ordered to defend Vi Xuyen (Ha Tuyen), the site of the heaviest fighting in the border war of encroachment and occupation. In only 10 months of combat, the regiment fought three enemy regiments that replaced one another in combat, defeated more than 60 attacks by enemy forces ranging in size from squads to regiments, defeated one enemy

company manning a fortified defensive position, killed 2,753 enemy troops, took 4 prisoners, destroyed 10 mortar emplacements, blew up 10 underground ammunition depots being used to store tens of tons of ammunition, captured very many guns, very much ammunition, signal equipment and other equipment...

The continuous feats of arms of the 567th Regiment at the scene of heaviest fighting won for the cadres and soldiers of the regiment the increased respect and admiration of our people. The party and state awarded the regiment the title Hero of the People's Armed Forces. Since the day it was formed, the regiment has been presented with two bouquets of flowers by Uncle Ton; been awarded six Hero titles on the regiment, battalion, company and individual levels; and been awarded one Military Exploit Order Second Class, 255 Military Exploit Orders of other types and hundreds of certificates and letters of commendation.

Behind the Feats of Arms

Which factors have given the regiment the strength to continuously record such feats of arms? A look at what the regiment has done to build itself and what it has done in combat shows several basic factors. These are:

1. Promptly developing and putting into practice creative and highly effective methods of fighting.

We have defeated many enemies, defeated many strategies and tactics and many of our outstanding battles are recorded in history books. However, the new circumstances of combat and our new enemy together with the new requirements of the war to defend the fatherland today differ in many ways from earlier periods. The regiment has, on the one hand, inherited and developed upon the experience of the wars of resistance against France and the United States. On the other hand, it has attached very much importance to developing new methods of fighting that are well suited to specific combat conditions to defeat the enemy's cunning tactics. The Chinese reactionaries differ from the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists in that their population is large and their mountains and river adjoin ours. They know the terrain of our country well. They know much about our situation. They have contacts and ties with persons inside our country. In their attacks on us, they employ many different cunning tactics. At times, they employ their "human wave" tactic, sending wave after wave of troops charging forth to occupy battle positions. At times, they send individual small units supported by very heavy artillery fire combined with decoy troop movements in attacks to encroach upon and occupy land of ours. At other times, they wait for an opportunity to use highly concentrated artillery fire to wipe out our forces... Closely linked to the tactics they employ in combat are the very cunning psychological warfare tactics they routinely employ to weaken our soldiers' will to fight. The fight against the Chinese aggressors is a bitter and long fight. In addition, it is a fight that is being fought in treacherous terrain, in dense forests and high mountains where the climate is harsh, where resupply is difficult, where it is frequently necessary to fight alone... If, under these conditions, our troops do not develop new, suitable and flexible methods of fighting, they will encounter many more difficulties and find it difficult to avoid defeat. Correctly recognizing and meeting these demands, the regiment

has regularly provided its cadres and soldiers with training in order to make them thoroughly familiar with the terrain and animal life, proficient in combat technology and tactics and skilled in one job but familiar with many with the aim of "localizing" and "sapperizing" the regiment to insure that the regiment possesses high fighting strength and is able to fight well independently, in concerted combat, in coordination with other units and in decentralized combat operations. When going into battle, its soldiers know the terrain, are proficient in the use of their own technical weapons and are able to make good use of other technical weapons in order to wipe out the enemy. As a result, the regiment was able to win victory even when Cao Bang City and the regiment's rear area were occupied by the enemy and all resupply routes from the rear had been severed. The regiment fought very well, systematically wiping out enemy forces in fortified defensive positions on Hill A6B. The regiment retook A6B and repulsed each of the enemy's furious counter-attacks. The regiment won victory over the enemy even in situations in which it was at a disadvantage to the enemy, such as being immediately below the enemy or on the side of a steep mountain immediately behind the enemy... Through its skillful and creative methods of fighting, the regiment was able to strengthen the confidence of our forces in their ability to win victory and preclude incorrect thinking from arising when encountering problems and obstacles in combat.

2. Forging a high will to fight amidst heavy combat.

Deserving of attention is the fact that, regardless of the circumstances, the regiment has never retreated in the face of difficulties and has always been determined to complete its task, be it training, economic construction or combat alert duty. Assigned to defend the border at the site of hottest and heaviest fighting against the war of encroachment and occupation of the Chinese aggressors, the regiment has concerned itself with improving the fighting skills of cadres and soldiers while attaching importance to forging their will to fight. These two factors have played an especially important role in view of the circumstances under which the regiment has been fighting. They combine as one and create the fighting skills and heroic spirit of the regiment's soldiers. The majority of the places where the regiment has taken up position have been surrounded by dense forest, high mountains or treacherous rock walls, have been places where transportation is very difficult. At many spots, only one person can fit through at a time or it is necessary to erect ladders and swing across on ropes. The slightest mistake is enough to send a person plummeting down into a chasm. Many places are wet and remain covered in clouds night and day... Far from the people, in regular contact with the enemy and with transportation very difficult, the regiment's soldiers live under exceedingly harsh conditions. They sometimes have no vegetables to eat, no water with which to brush their teeth and wash their faces and must often go without food or water for 2 or 3 days because they cannot be resupplied. The regiment's position has been intertwined with enemy positions like teeth in a set of gears. At many places, its position has been inferior to the enemy's. It has been difficult for the regiment to make any move without being detected by the enemy. At many spots, although we and the enemy cannot see one another, we are so close that we can hear what the enemy is saying and they can hear us. Were it possible to move the terrain ever so slightly, the enemy could immediately concentrate heavy fire power, including

mortars, 85 millimeter, 37 millimeter and 14.5 millimeter artillery, directly on the regiment's position. The enemy has fired on the regiment with no concern for the amount of ammunition used. One day, they fired 5,300 rounds of artillery at one small position. The dirt and dust were so thick that the position was as dark as night and the soldiers there could not see one another's faces. The fighting was exceedingly intense. There has hardly been one day when the regiment has not had to fight the enemy with infantry or artillery forces. The soldiers of the regiment must constantly fight the enemy with their weapons and also always be vigilant and struggle against the enemy's psychological war. Every hour of every day the enemy slanders and attacks us over loudspeakers by exploiting negative phenomena in our society. Through various forms of literature and art, they attempt to provoke a sense of discouragement and resentment, provoke feelings of missing one's family and home. They appeal to soldiers to desert and cross the border, saying that they will be well treated. The enemy sends over psychological warfare goods to win over our soldiers and weaken their will to fight. Today's fight to defend the border readily brings several thoughts to the soldier's mind: before me is the enemy, before me lie hardships and sacrifice but behind me lies peace, tranquility and happiness. If the soldier does not possess high revolutionary vigilance and a steadfast will to fight, he cannot tenaciously stand his ground, cannot defend his combat position.

In light of these circumstances, the regiment's command cadres always keep abreast of the thinking and feelings of soldiers through the organizations of the party and the Youth Union. They maintain a close relationship with soldiers so that they can promptly encourage and help them, especially teach them to display a high spirit of comradeship and love of the other members of their unit and use the strength of the collective to help one another develop upon strengths and correct shortcomings while combating the ideological and psychological influences of the enemy. It can be said that both subjective conditions and objective circumstances have truly forged in the soldiers of the regiment an iron will to fight. These soldiers possess unquestioned loyalty to the party, to the people and are prepared to give their lives to defend the fatherland. They have tenaciously stood their ground and withstood every massive counter-attack and the repeated artillery attacks of the enemy. There have been times when, after one round of fighting after another, with their ammunition exhausted and their casualties high and with massive enemy forces climbing up to their position, soldiers have bravely stood ready to lay down their lives by calling in our own artillery on themselves in order to wipe out the enemy and defend their position. Once, a soldier threw himself down a deep cave to drive off the enemy, grabbed by the feet and being pulled down by the enemy, he did not hesitate to pull out a grenade and drop it on the enemy. Some soldiers, rendered unconscious by their many wounds, resumed fighting on regaining consciousness. When soldiers supplying a position with ammunition and food fell a few meters from the position under heavy enemy fire, other soldiers charged forth and carried the supplies to the position. Before dying, some soldiers have told the other members of their units: "Don't let the position be lost..."

3. Maintaining a close relationship between cadres and soldiers, between the army and civilians.

This is a tradition of our army, one recorded in the Oath of Honor. The regiment has constantly upheld this fine relationship.

The relationship between cadres and soldiers, the relationship between commanders and subordinates, between centralism and democracy are comfortable relationships, not forced. These relationships stem first from the exemplary, vanguard nature and the organizational and command skills of cadres and the trust and admiration that soldiers feel for cadres. The cadres of the regiment have played a good role in leading, organizing and commanding the unit in the fulfillment of its mission. Many comrades have shown themselves to be very steadfast, resourceful and brave, to be skilled commanders and fighters. They have dared to accept the sacrifices for themselves. Therefore, at all times and places, soldiers have been firmly confident in and obeyed cadres, have always followed the example of cadres in overcoming every difficulty and hardship and are ready to sacrifice their lives to complete their mission. This close relationship is also clearly evident in the equality and love between cadres and soldiers. The cadres and soldiers of the regiment can always confide in one another without hesitation, confide their personal feelings or thoughts that suddenly come to mind. They love and support one another, they help one another to rectify shortcomings and weaknesses in order to complete their mission together. Everyone considers the unit home and feels that they cannot live without the unit, without the other members of the unit. There have been many cases of soldiers earnestly asking to remain in the unit on the day before their discharge. Some comrades who were not scheduled for combat duty have insisted that they go into combat, have remained with their units and recorded outstanding feats of arms.

Wherever it is stationed, the regiment always maintains a close relationship with the people. Its command always takes the initiative in establishing ties with the local administration and people and helps the locality to build its armed forces and improve its technical, tactical and command skills as well as its ability to coordinate combat operations. The regiment's mass organizations establish brotherhoods with the mass organizations within the locality and exchange work and combat experiences with each other. In addition, soldiers are also ready to help the people build schools and child care centers and accelerate the cultural, literature-art, physical culture-sports and other movements. Every activity that the regiment conducts in its relations with the people is for "the happiness and joy of the people." Its cadres and soldiers respect the people and do not violate their property, customs or habits. As a result, wherever the regiment goes, it is loved by the people and the people are always ready to support and assist it. At many places, fellow countrymen, even though experiencing shortages in their own daily lives, have tightened their belts and pooled what they have to resupply the regiment with vegetables, fruit, other food products and medicinal herbs. The Association of Soldiers' Mothers and the mass organizations within the locality visit cadres and soldiers before and after heavy fighting in order to pay their regards, encourage them and give soldiers cigarettes and mend their torn clothing, all to express their deep love for the "troops of Uncle Ho," for the beloved sons of the people who are fighting day and night to defend each bit of soil of the Vietnamese fatherland. Thanks to this close bond, the cadres and soldiers of the regiment always have a warm feeling in their hearts and have gained additional strength.

Not satisfied with the achievements it has recorded and continuing to move ahead to overcome its difficulties and remaining weaknesses, the regiment is grasping its weapons ever more tightly and firmly defending the fatherland's border day and night, determined to duly punish the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists for their acts of encroachment and occupation along the border and record many more feats of arms in order to be worthy of the title Hero of the Vietnam People's Army and the trust and love of the people.

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OUR NATIONAL CULTURAL IDENTITY AND THE MOLDING OF THE NEW, SOCIALIST MAN

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 84-89

[Article by Le Anh Tra]

[Text] Every nation has its own identity. This identity is the nation's character. At the same time, it is that special feature, that quality which is common to every member of the community. The national identity stems partly from biological, racial and genetic factors and partly from the culture that is forged and cultivated through social life. It is the nation's cultural identity.

National cultural identity (or, simply, national identity) is a key to understanding the Vietnamese and is a matter that cannot be studied in isolation from the nation's system of cultural values.

National identity is not all the positive cultural values of the nation added together. Rather, it is only the most essential characteristics, the most representative features of the nation's culture, features drawn from the values, from the traditions of the nation's culture. It represents the nation and makes the nation different from others from the standpoint of culture, of the people who make up the nation...

Many important cultural values of mankind are found in many nations. Each nation, however, has values that are unique and special to it. And, besides these values, every nation also has its own special qualities. For example, love of one's native village, of one's region can be found in every nation but the patriotism of a developed nation living within a progressive social system is different from the feelings for one's native village of a nation in a region where the system is underdeveloped. Many nations work diligently but the style of work differs from one place to another as dictated by natural conditions, the climate, the environment...

Expressing both the nature and the special characteristics and features of a nation, a nation's identity is its backbone, its essence. It is generalization on a high level of each and every positive, spiritual value but is not an abstract concept. Rather, it is a potential that is manifested through the thinking, language, psychology, feelings, actions, literature, art, folk culture, customs, habits, way of life...of the entire nation.

Thus, national identity is the quality of the nation, is the nation's portrait, the nation's soul. It is the source of the strength, the existence and development, the conscious desire to move forward of a nation.

It must also be said that although every nation has a cultural identity, not every nation's identity is as strong or rich as the next and not every nation always preserves its identity as though it were the apple of its eye. In history, nations that no longer exist destroyed or weakened their own identity. And, in our times, more than a few persons in a number of nations have failed to maintain their full national identity and have lost their moorings, have lost their way...

The Vietnamese nation has always maintained its identity and always strengthened and developed this identity, taking this identity as the source of its strength, as the base for waging victorious, life or death struggles against national enemies. Today, in the initial stage of the period of transition to socialism, it is the focus, the backbone of efforts to build the new culture and mold the new, socialist man.

One characteristic of national identity is that it remains relatively stable as the history of the nation develops. It emerges when the roots of the nation are just forming, emerges during the very first days that the nation is being built and becomes a strong tree. Through the months and years, through the ages, from one generation to the next, this tree grows stronger, it blossoms and bears fruit. The flowers might fall and be replaced, but the tree grows on, tied to the destiny of the entire community, the nation and the country. Some of the factors of this identity become part of the nation's very flesh and blood, become part of its subconsciousness. This is an indication of just how permanent and strong this identity is. Nevertheless, it is not immutable. This identity evolves and develops as the nation and its people develop. And, although this identity is, generally speaking, stable, it does change, sometimes dramatically, sometimes undergoing a special development in terms of quality, in terms of the nation's stand and thinking. These changes occur during periods when major displacements or changes occur in the structure of society or when new ideas of important significance emerge. For example, when, following 1,000 years of Chinese domination during which our national identity was suppressed, our nation became independent and sovereign and the Dai Viet culture blossomed, our national identity underwent significant substantive changes.

And, since the August Revolution, with the emergence of Marxist-Leninist thinking, with the success of the revolution, of the wars of resistance against France and the United States, our national identity has acquired qualities of this new age in which we live.

Conversely, the possibility cannot be precluded that in stages of poor economic development, of political and social chaos, when negative cultural and social factors emerge, the nation's identity can be affected to some extent, can become blurred, become altered or be tarnished somewhat. Clearly, national identity is a quality which, although tied almost entirely to the consciousness and feelings of each person, is not a natural endowment. It is not immutable, but must be taught, cultivated and forged. The teaching

of national identity usually occurs naturally and spontaneously through the influences of the environment, of life and society. It is also something that is done through the conscious efforts of each person, of the state, the community and the nation through the education provided within the family, at the school, within the agency and the mass organization.

In the present stage of the country's development, we must have a very clear perception of our current national identity, must know our capabilities, our strengths and weaknesses well, so that we can adopt a plan for preserving, cultivating and enhancing our qualities and cultural values and, on this basis, bring our national identity to a new level of development with the aim of successfully building the new culture and molding the new, socialist man.

In a multi-national country such as ours, every nationality and ethnic group has its own identity. For example, in addition to the Kinh (Viet) ethnic group, the Tay, Nung, Thai, Muong, H'Mong and Dao ethnic groups, the Montagnards, the Khmer of Nam Bo, the Cham...have their own identities. The common national identity of Vietnam as a whole is mainly a combination of the identity of the ethnic majority, the Viet ethnic group (the dominant factor), and the identities of the other important ethnic groups mentioned above. As a result of living together for many years within one nation, sharing joys and sorrows, struggling against common enemies and winning glorious victories together, the various ethnic groups have influenced one another. Their identities have had an impact upon one another and have been brought closer together, with the influence of the ethnic majority, of course, being dominant.

The tendency of the cultures of the various ethnic groups to move closer together, to incorporate more of one another and become interwoven, with the resulting emergence of an increasingly unified Vietnamese culture, has created an increasingly strong common identity for all Vietnamese, for the entire nation of Vietnam. Although each ethnic group still retains features of its ethnic identity, this in no way impedes the development of our common identity, but only makes it richer. Even within the Kinh ethnic group, the unique cultural aspects of each cultural region (Bac Bo, central Vietnam, the South and so forth) are retained. Our policy is to not absorb minor identities within one common identity. Even in the case of the individual person, it is necessary to insure the development of each creative personality and not erase the uniqueness of the individual in artistic creativity. In the final analysis, everyone in the world is different. This is a law of nature. It is also a law in the molding of man.

There is yet another perspective from which cultural identity can be viewed.

Geographical factors combined with national and historical factors have led to the formation of large "cultural regions" in the world, such as Southeast Asia, South Asia, Western Europe, Northern Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, South and North America, etc. Each of these major cultural regions has its own common, identifying features, knowledge of which is very beneficial to cultural intercourse in the world.

In an age in which the culture of the world is taking huge strides forward, particularly in the fields of science and technology, in an age in which all cultures of the world can be influenced by and influence one another, these cultures, which include the cultural identity of nations, have a very strong impact upon one another, with the result that the conditions exist for the national identities of cultures to intertwine. Distinctive factors of national identity gradually recede into the background and universal factors are adopted. Many different situations are possible. In relations among the capitalist countries, the cultures of the large countries usually dominate the cultures of the small and poor countries. Here, acculturation is a form of cultural inequality, is cultural neo-colonialism. Such has been the case with the American way of life, which has spread to other countries and caused some nationalist countries that lack vigilance to pursue consumerism, to venerate the glitter of capitalist civilization, thus causing the nation's traditional culture to become increasingly foreign, to drift from its moorings and harming the nation's political and economic independence.

It is neo-colonialism that has applied this policy of aggression through acculturation, of introducing negative, decadent cultural products in a vain attempt to erode the national identities of countries and, in this way, cause the will of the peoples of these countries to struggle for national independence to be weakened, which can lead to peaceful political changes in the favor of imperialism.

The nationalist countries, having become increasingly aware of this scheme, have adopted correct policies regarding cultural intercourse, policies designed to protect their values and traditions, and are now highly vigilant against the cultural tactics of imperialism. It is not without reason that there are popular movements in many countries of the world to gain an understanding of and retain the nation's cultural identity, to return to the nation's cultural roots, with this being considered an effective way to develop the spirit of patriotism and national struggle.

Among the socialist countries, a different law applies with regard to cultural intercourse. From our perspective, cultural exchange and cultural influences among the socialist countries are a law in the development of these cultures. We always retain the national identity of our culture but, instead of being bigoted, instead of closing our doors, we stand ready to accept things that are new, are revolutionary, accept the very best of world culture in order to constantly augment our cultural values, our cultural identity. Acculturation in the direction of socialism is an essential law of Vietnam's culture, provided that, in this acculturation, endogenous, not exogenous, factors are dominant. Only in this way is it possible to retain and develop our national identity.

Studying our national identity in culture is very difficult. Everyone perceives in the Vietnamese certain special characteristics, certain features that are unique to Vietnam. However, it is not easy to combine these features and express them in the form of an identity.

To begin with, we must have knowledge of all the cultural values and traditions of the nation. This must be accomplished both through cognition

based on logical thinking and through intuition based on intuitive thinking, that is, through both reason and sentiment. It is difficult for a purely intellectual analysis to give us a full picture of the deepest aspects of the soul, of the most subtle aspects of a feeling. Therefore, works of art are a rich source of materials from which we can gain an understanding of the qualities, psychology and sentiments of the Vietnamese.

In years past, many scholars have attempted to present some of the essential values of the nation of Vietnam, for example, our traditional deep, unyielding and heroic patriotism in the face of all aggression, patriotism that is today being elevated to socialist patriotism; our spirit of diligence in labor, our spirit of enduring every hardship and challenge and steadfastly defending our life, defending the life of the community; our manual skills and ability to adapt to all circumstances; our simple way of life and optimism; our love of nature, our love and kindness toward our fellow man, which begin in the family, in the village and extend to the poor and needy, even to vanquished enemies, etc.

There are also persons who stress, as a pair of parallel categories in the national identity of Vietnam, our heroism and simplicity, or the fact that we are both staunchly heroic but flexible and adaptable as well.

Other persons stress our atheism, our lack of belief in a religion, our love of our fellow man, the fact that we are not obstinate, our clemency toward others...

Others emphasize our genteel, reserved style, a style expressed through customs that reflect harmony and balance, and the fact that we are not inclined toward form but delve deeply into the psychology of expression in an art that is richly lyrical.

And, still others maintain that, from the perspective of aesthetics, the Vietnamese possess refined tastes and preferences. Their tastes and preferences do not run to the garish or the loud, but are silent, are balanced and reflect a kind soul with feelings of warmth, optimism, loyalty...

Besides positive values, scholars have also pointed out limiting factors and weaknesses caused by the old system, by the old economy and society in our ethics, our way of life, our customs and habits... These are weaknesses, are negative factors that have arisen in the process of the struggle between good and bad. That which is bad is always denounced and detested by the people. The scars that it leaves gradually fade on their own from the legacy we inherit. Negative, non-humanist factors, although always in existence, cannot be included among the traditional values of the nation and cannot be reflected in national identity, an essential attribute that is always positive.(1)

To date, we have been unable to accurately and fully summarize the qualities mentioned above in a complete list of our nation's cultural values.

However, we can take legitimate pride in the fact that the nation of Vietnam has, in the course of its long and glorious history, established for itself spiritual values that are solid, dynamic and rich and has maintained and

developed these values into a priceless identity. From what we have learned, we also have the basis for determining the backbone, the essence of each value and crystallize these values in a combined psychological-ethical-ideological-aesthetic quality that is both the essence of and is representative of our nation's culture, controls both our consciousness and subconsciousness and is expressed in each activity of man and society.

This combined quality is our national cultural identity. Every Vietnamese can, depending upon his level of education and intelligence, recognize and perceive it. However, to demand that this quality be expressed as a rigid formula, that it be governed by a strict definition is very difficult, and is something that might never be accomplished in a way that is truly full and complete.

To fully know the national identity of a culture, it is necessary to approach the culture from many different perspectives, from the perspective of theoretical thinking, the perspective of impressions and experimentation, from the perspective of creativity in literature and art. Alexi Tolstoy once wrote a short novel entitled "The Russian Character." He presented a most beautiful image of love and loyalty and allowed us to conclude on our own what the character of the Russian was. Boris Polevoi acquaints us with the identity of the Soviet Union, not through scientific definitions, but through a series of world famous stories about Soviet heroes. And, in the Soviet Union, as well as in other countries, there still is no truly complete summary of what the identity of these nations is.

In the world, certain qualities are often identified with a number of countries. For example, the British are cold and indifferent. The French are sociable and polite. The Germans are miserly. The Japanese are pragmatic and so forth. It is our thinking that these are not national identities, but only a salient characteristic that is readily seen in these nations by foreigners, not their essence. Mockery is usually the purpose of these characterizations. They tend to find fault with and make fun of a nation and reflect a subjective evaluation, not one based on objective, scientific knowledge.

Although difficult, we have arrived at a relatively unified determination of what the national identity of Vietnam's culture is.

Vietnam's identity is the most beautiful essence of Vietnam's culture, the most distinctive characteristics of which are, in our opinion, deep affection for and devotion to the country, to one's native village, to man and to one's friends, which are reflected in the demeanor, are expressed in the qualities of heroism, simplicity and optimism but humility as well.

This identity has played a very important role as catalyst in the history of the country's development. It is playing and will continue to play a very important role in socialist construction, in the molding of the new, socialist man.

To preserve the nation's cultural heritage, our national identity must be enhanced, which occurs as this identity constantly evolves on its own to keep pace with changes in objective conditions, changes in the times. In the face

of the demands of the country in the new age, the nation's identity has been changing on its own, has been evolving to embrace new, socialist factors, such as communist humanism, the proletarian international spirit and the thinking of Marxism-Leninism, together with very rich and entirely new styles of expression.

Today, Vietnam's identity is evolving into a socialist national identity.

This development is not spontaneous development. Rather, it is conscious development, is development that is part of our party's line on the education of man, part of its human strategy. To do a truly thorough job of molding the new man, importance must be attached to cultivating this identity.

The following measures are designed to strengthen and develop national identity and are, at the same time, part of the plan to build a new, socialist culture:

--Deeply researching, by many different methods and measures, each national cultural value, each fine tradition of all ethnic groups, all cultural regions and in each field of life; adopting plans to evaluate, select and introduce these values and systematically teach them to everyone so that they become universal, become deeply rooted in all strata of the people and all generations so that each person and each ethnic group learns and cultivates these values and we can cultivate an increasingly rich and diverse cultural identity amidst solid unity.

--Intensifying cultural exchanges with the world, particularly with the socialist countries, and studying the very best of the world's culture in a selective and analytical manner so that we can augment our traditional values with new values without disrupting our traditions and our national identity is raised to the level of our times yet retains its roots, its backbone, retains its Vietnamese beauty.

--Resolutely overcoming the weaknesses in Vietnam's system of cultural values and resolutely rejecting backward and negative factors in our way of life while establishing new customs and habits, establishing a new way of life.

The new, socialist Vietnamese can only develop completely (that is, be fully developed and well balanced) when our cultural identity, which is his very core, becomes a socialist national identity.

FOOTNOTES

1. See: "Ve gia tri van hoa tinh than Viet nam (2 tap)," [Concerning the Spiritual Cultural Values of Vietnam (2 volumes)], Thong Tin Ly Luan Publishing House, Marx-Lenin Institute, Hanoi, 1983.

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SOME THOUGHTS ON LITERARY LIFE IN HO CHI MINH CITY SINCE LIBERATION

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 90-94

[Article by Tran Trong Dang Dan]

[Text] During the past 10 years, literature in Ho Chi Minh City has recorded major achievements. This has been the first decade in the city's history of more than 300 years that socialist realist literature has been an orthodox literary movement. Tens of thousands of literary works have been produced and circulated within the city during the past 10 years, the majority of which are works created by the most progressive and scientific method—the creative method that has the Marxist-Leninist world view as its philosophical-political base and the consciousness of the proletarian party as its dominant ideological-aesthetic principle.

During the past 10 years, the city's publishing system alone has supplied to readers more than 1,700 book titles. And, among the 10 types of press materials that are in relatively widespread circulation within the city, more than 10,000 poems, more than 1,500 short stories and narratives...dealing with wholesome themes have been written during the past 10 years, the majority of which have been written by writers who reside within the city. Many poems have become the lyrics of songs liked by hundreds of thousands of persons. Several good works have been written for the cinema and the stage. Many literary works have provided the basic material for good plays and films. Valuable contributions have been made by the fields of literary research, theory, criticism and translation. Literature for youngsters has also recorded very encouraging achievements, particularly in recent years.

Of course, in the literary life of Ho Chi Minh City, the past 10 years have not been without phenomena that have discouraged readers. "The Evasive Clown Doll," which dealt with the political and social situation in the South and the city in 1979 and 1980, gave us cause for concern regarding the stand and sense of responsibility of the writer. On reading the short story "Through the Pass," we could not help but be upset by the commonplace ethics of the succeeding generation and concerned about the viewpoint of the writer concerning the origin of the war... And when a poet, instead of saying "before I was born," exclaims in his work "when I was still dust"...he expresses a concept that is foreign to us from the standpoint of world view and philosophy of life, foreign to our thinking concerning the origin of man

and, by so doing, has harmed new readers... Some rhymes and fables address nebulous themes, ridicule and attack the wrong persons...thus making an impact upon the thinking of the reader. The selection of translations of foreign literature and the way foreign literature has been translated for the city's readers have not always yielded good returns. From the translated stories on American blacks such as "Uncle John's Mistaken Prophecy" or "Elliot's Discovery," for example, it is hard for us to believe that the reader comes away with a clear understanding of the qualities and values of the black person in the United States and thus acquires a deeper hatred of racism. Rather, the opposite is sometimes the result. Activities in the fields of research, theory and criticism have been marked by superficial views, by shortcomings and so forth.

Many more of these phenomena that are discouraging to new readers can be found but all these phenomena taken together are secondary compared to the large number of works that represent literary achievements of the city. From an overall perspective, we can boldly say that the literary works of Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years have been good. They are works that have tried to honestly describe reality in the process of its revolutionary development with the aim of helping to teach the socialist revolutionary spirit and communist ideals to the public. Through the art of literature, the writers of these works have confirmed that the new, the positive and the beautiful are the dominant factors in life. At the same time, they have harshly criticized the negative, the backward and the mistakes that still exist within our society with a view toward gradually overcoming and eventually totally eliminating them.

Thus, during the past 10 years, the corps of writers of Ho Chi Minh City has made positive contributions of enormous significance while laying the groundwork for contributing to the formation of new areas of theory. It has laid the groundwork for helping to confirm, develop and creatively apply the basic principles of literary theory and the theory of aesthetics, in general, and the groundwork for augmenting and perfecting the theoretical foundations of Vietnamese literature, of Vietnamese art, in particular.

Along with these achievements and contributions, the realities of the revolution are facing literature in Ho Chi Minh City with many new problems, problems that must be solved through specific measures, solved through practical activities and solved from the perspective of theory.

Having accepted the responsibility of reviewing the literature of Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years in light of these requirements, we see that we face very many problems, some large, some small, all of which are closely related and need to be resolved.

Here, only a few of these problems will be addressed.

First, with regard to the subjects described by literature, we always give priority to contemporary issues, that is, to reflecting socialist transformation and socialist construction. This is quite proper, but also quite difficult. The problem commonly seen here is discrepancies between reality as it exists and reality as it is said to exist, as it is described in

literary works. While acknowledging that there is always something of a gap between these two factors, the writer must be exceedingly quick to recognize new conditions as they emerge so that he can immediately talk about things that could not be talked about yesterday in order to reduce this gap between reality as it exists and reality as it is said to exist, put more information into his works and broaden the scope of his themes and subjects. This is a very necessary requirement but it is one which few writers have done much to meet during the past 10 years.

Giving priority to modern topics is correct but even works on contemporary issues must possess historical depth. The extent of this historical depth depends upon the size of the work itself. A work that describes life today can reflect the spirit of the nation's 4,000 year history. And, works must explore not only the depth of our nation's history, but also the breadth of mankind's history. On the other hand, we also feel that there are countless issues in the past that are still of pressing, contemporary significance to us today, issues which have not been addressed at all or only to a very small degree in the literary works of Ho Chi Minh City over the past 10 years. For example, subjects dealing with the 9 year war of resistance have been virtually ignored. The face of society in the city itself and in Nam Bo prior to 1945 is also very poorly defined in literature. The realities of the resistance against the United States for national salvation have been presented in scores of works, and it must be acknowledged that the most significant achievements of Vietnamese literature, of the literature of our city have been recorded in works on this topic. However, although published after the victory won in April 1975, some works on this topic were actually written while the war was still being fought. Reflecting the reality of a war while the war is still being fought is different than reflecting the reality of a war once the war has ended. And, concerning this particular war, reflecting it within the context of a long period of peace is different than reflecting it against the background of the seesaw war being fought today along our country's border. However, the works on the resistance against the United States for national salvation that were written before the war ended are of value but the new public demands that works on this topic take a newer perspective, which is something that many works written since the war have failed to do. Therefore, from the standpoint of topics and the new public and in light of the new conditions of life, of the new attitudes that exist, these works have not generated much by way of strong interest and have not received the acclaim befitting their importance.

One of the important subjects described by the literature of Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years has been the war on the southwestern border. Here, the short, concise genre, such as the narrative, the poem and the short story, have proven just how effective and timely they can be. However, major works that possess depth in terms of their contents and art are still rare.

There are many other aspects of the problems concerning the subjects described by literature that must be given thought and resolved in the years ahead. For example, there is the matter of how we should criticize the negative phenomena in society in order to both make a good impact upon the masses and show that the writer is being responsible. There are the matters of the writers of the city and national topics and the writers of the rest of the country and

topics concerning the city. There is the matter of setting a common direction for topics on the city and setting subject guidelines for the various strata of writers. There is the matter of topics dealing with science, technology, etc.

The second problem we would like to address concerns the city's corps of writers. We have a corps of nearly 200 persons and a large and vital force of young writers, which are augmented by many writers who write on the city even though they do not reside within it. This is very gratifying. However, neither the impact nor the creativity of these forces have been developed or tapped to the fullest extent possible. The quality of the works written over the past 10 years has not matched the real capabilities of the corps of writers. Some writers who possess experience in life, possess valuable knowledge and once showed that they also possessed talent have remained virtually inactive for many years, either because they do not feel the pulse of the new public, are not inspired to write or are putting their efforts into too many other things. A few of these writers have written a small number of works but have failed to make a very deep or significant impression.

The city's corps of writers has been assembled from many different sources. Their knowledge, their life experience and their styles are diverse and rich. However, we do not see the combined strength of this corps in the works that have been produced during the past 10 years. The strengths of each source have not been brought together in a combined strength. Writers from some sources remain in a quandry, unable to overcome their initial unfamiliarity and adapt to the new creative environment.

Among the problems that relate to the city's corps of writers, we see many that are very deserving of concern. One is the stand and perspective of some writers. We are happy to have what we have, namely, a large and strong corps of writers. At the same time, we are not forgetting that some members of our corps of writers fled the country during the past 10 years. This loss, although small, is regrettable. The problem we face is how to prevent this situation from recurring. Because, we cannot even begin to talk about the role and responsibility of the writer when the writer's obligations as a citizen are not being fulfilled.

The problem of achieving mutual support among the various generations of writers is also one to which attention must be given. Which steps must be taken to insure that the various generations not only support one another, but are also completely compatible with one another so that the strengths of all generations are developed and augment one another and weaknesses are gradually eliminated.

In the face of the wide assortment of aesthetic tastes of the reader, in the face of the disorder in the publication and distribution system today, what is the writer to think as he sits facing a blank page? Which tastes should he pursue, which publishing and distribution guidelines should he support? How is he to overcome all the difficulties being faced in everyday life in order to write with confidence, to fight for victory on the cultural and ideological front? These are burning questions in our literary life.

The third problem concerns literary works themselves. No one wants to read a literary work that is half finished. But in order for a work to attract many readers, it must be genuinely interesting, that is, interesting from the standpoint of describing reality honestly and within the framework of its trend of development; interesting from the perspective of employing art to express the philosophical and political views of Marxism-Leninism, of our party and state; interesting from the standpoint of providing the reader with new knowledge and creating interpersonal relations that are more proper; and interesting from the standpoint of bringing beauty or the truth to the reader. The majority of the literary works of Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years have been proven to have been written in exact accordance with guidelines and to be wholly proper in terms of content. This is something very good. However, works that generate truly strong interest among the public are still rare. Here, the problem we face is the need to re-examine the functions of literature.

One of the more prevalent phenomena in Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years has been the emergence of numerous works on criminal cases, on special operations and commando forces, on tactical and strategic espionage and intelligence operations... This genre, it must be acknowledged, has attracted a large number of readers, particularly among the young. While it is also very necessary for these realities to be reflected in literature, this must be done in such a way that works describing these realities are highly literary in nature and the impact of this genre is not restricted to pure entertainment or leans toward satisfying the preferences of some readers whose tastes are shallow and run toward the exotic.

Is the number of literary works written in Ho Chi Minh City during the past 10 years actually very high compared to the number of works that have been published during the past 10 years? Is the ratio between the number of works written on the city compared to the number of literary works, in general, distributed within the city during the past 10 years still very small? And, what is the ratio between the number of books published and distributed since the great victory in the spring of 1975 to the number published and distributed under the American-puppet regime? These questions must be carefully examined and correctly evaluated in order to chart the course for the city's literature in the years ahead.

Among the problems related to literary works in Ho Chi Minh City, the problem of emulation among the different genre is also one that perhaps needs to be given attention. Here, it is poetry that is in the most difficult situation. During the past 10 years, very many poems have been written. If satirical and critical poems are included, the number is very large, particularly in the press. Many persons have written very many poems and, in all fairness, it must be said that more than a few of these poems, more than a few lines of poetry are well written. However, only a very small number of poems has been brought to life, mainly as a result of being set to music and being used as the lyrics of songs. But the poems themselves that have been written during the past 10 years have not drawn significant attention in literary life. In the case of narratives, the problem is more complex, especially with regard to works related to major changes in the country. Generally speaking, quantity has continued to outweigh quality during the past 10 years. Here, problems

related to theory are arising again concerning such matters as literary narratives and press narratives, narratives and fiction... Literature for the stage and cinema have not come into their own. Many plays have been written for the stage and many scripts have been written for the cinema but very few of these plays and scripts meet the standards of literary works. Meanwhile, the short novel is virtually the only genre to set off significant shock waves. Deserving of attention is that the basic factor behind the shock waves set off by some short novels in the recent past has been how the issue at hand has been raised, has been the writer daring to charge forth to the leading edges of life, address the concerns and questions that are most pressing, are most current and do so while providing the largest possible volume of information to readers. We welcome the positive impact of the short novels of this kind but cannot say that we welcome all short novels. Nor can we be satisfied with the literary works of the city, in general, during the past 10 years. A positive and gratifying trend is the uniform development that has been taking place amidst an atmosphere of emulation among the various genre. Because, a system of literature, a literary stage cannot be the achievement of only a few genre. One of the most pressing needs in the literary life of Ho Chi Minh City, as well as our country, in the years ahead is the need for many good works of major importance. These works must encompass each and every genre. They must reflect many different aspects of life. They must encompass a breadth that is large and expansive and a depth, in terms of time, that extends far back into history.

7809

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IDEOLOGICAL LIFE: A LESSON

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 95-96

[Article by Phuong Son]

[Text] The case of Cao Van Tuyen(1) causes us to think. Why would a cadre with more than 30 years on the job, a cadre who has made many contributions to building the communications-transportation sector, commit mistakes so serious as to require that the party take disciplinary action against him?

To determine the causes of these mistakes, we must first look at what Tuyen did to improve and better himself. Although he had been a party member for more than 26 years, Tuyen did not attach importance to the communist party member's obligation to constantly improve himself, especially when he became the leader of a specialized sector of the province. Because he neglected this obligation, Tuyen lacked the necessary qualities of a communist party member, of a cadre of a communist party leading a proletarian dictatorship state.

The foremost quality of the party member is strict compliance with the resolutions of the party. Tuyen did not strictly comply with a number of the province's policies concerning the development of water route transportation. In 1985, the Thanh Hoa Provincial Party Committee and People's Committee adopted policies on developing water route transportation. Because Tuyen lacked a sense of responsibility and neglected his management duties, particularly the management of the coastal transport enterprise, these policies of the province were not implemented.

The communist party member wholeheartedly serves the people. He is the first to be concerned and the last to take enjoyment. He is diligent, frugal, honest and unbiased. He does not violate public property, is not selfish and does not use public property for private purposes. In violation of this spirit, Tuyen abused his position, bought many building materials (at "internal" prices) and used equipment and labor of the corporations within the sector managed by him to build a private home. This occurred in 1983 and raised many questions among the people.

With the party leading the administration, the communist party member must scrupulously obey the Constitution and the laws of the state. He must live on the income earned through his labor and not engage in speculation through

trade. In early 1985, while on assignment overseas, Tuyen used and managed foreign currency in an irresponsible manner, causing public funds to be lost. He and those accompanying him purchased many goods of a speculative nature, thereby exerting a bad influence.

The shortcomings described above prove that Tuyen lacks the necessary qualities of a communist party member, the main cause of which has been the light attention given by him to regularly and continuously improving himself in line with the standards of the party member as defined in Party Statutes.

Here, mention must also be made of the responsibility of the party organization, particularly the party chapter at the place where Tuyen participates in party activities, the state organization at the place where he works and the mass organizations, particularly the trade union, of which he is a member. Had these organizations provided stronger education, stronger management and done more to forge the revolutionary qualities of cadres, party members and the members of their mass organization, the mistakes made by Tuyen could have been prevented.

Every violation of party discipline and state law must be dealt with in an appropriate manner. This measure is necessary to strengthen the discipline within the party and the state apparatus.

However, the purpose of disciplinary action is not only to punish, but also to educate. If we learn appropriate lessons from each case of disciplinary action, the action taken will have the effect of building and strengthening the organization of the party and the state apparatus. The lessons that must be drawn here are that every cadre and party member must always attach importance to cultivating revolutionary ethics and the organization of the party, particularly the party chapter, must provide stronger education and management, must do more to cultivate revolutionary qualities among cadres and party members, including party members who are middle and high ranking cadres.

FOOTNOTES

1. Cao Van Tuyen, member of the Thanh Hoa Provincial Party Committee and director of the Thanh Hoa Provincial Communications-Transportation Service was the subject of the disciplinary action party detention in accordance with a decision by the Party Central Committee on 17 June 1986.

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WHERE WILL FOLLOWING THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA LEAD THAILAND?

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 97-101

[Article by Ho Bat Khuat]

[Text] Thailand, with its administration of powerful capitalists and large landowners and long known as a country that pursues a "blow in the wind" foreign policy, has the practice of collaborating with aggressor imperialists to the detriment of neighboring countries and its own gain. In World War II, when practically all the countries of Southeast Asia had been invaded and occupied by Japan, Thailand collaborated with Japan and served Japan's interests. "With a few smiles and more than a few bows, we made the Japanese happy"—said former Thai Prime Minister Kukrit Pramot. Following World War II, this time with the United States, Thailand not only smiled and bowed but also obediently served U.S. interests and became almost totally dependent upon the United States. During the years when the United States was waging its war of aggression in Indochina, Thailand turned its territory into a U.S. military base. The Thai Army directly participated in combat on the Indochina battlefield beside the U.S. Army. Thailand thought that its U.S. friends would be a permanent influence in Indochina. It did not suspect that the United States would suffer a shameful defeat and be forced to withdraw from Indochina. Then, when U.S. interests no longer coincided with Thai interests, the United States was prepared to trample upon the sovereignty of Thailand. For example, in 1975, despite protests by the Thai government, the United States used a military base on Thai soil to take back the American ship Mayaguez which had been captured by Khmer Rouge forces. That day, the Thai people had another opportunity to learn the character of the United States—a country that is always overbearing in international relations, made so by its wealth and many weapons.

Following the defeat of the United States in Vietnam and the withdrawal of U.S. forces, Thailand quickly turned to China in an vain attempt to find a protector. China had long nurtured the ambition of penetrating further into Southeast Asia and was looking for favorable opportunities. When Thailand extended its "invitation," China grabbed it as though it were grabbing for gold. Diplomatic relations between Thailand and China were established on 1 July 1975. These relations were quickly "tightened." Top officials of the two countries made frequent visits to each other's country. China supplied Thailand with 130 millimeter artillery, tanks and many other weapons in

military aid and has made promises to "maintain security" for Thailand. Officials of the Thai administration consider this to be a major diplomatic victory. However, more than a few alert Thai, particularly within intellectual circles, see the danger posed by these relations. The Thai Doctor of Political Science Chulacheep Chuanno has said: "It is not wise to be pro-China." China, as has long been its tradition, considers its smaller, weaker neighbors to the south to be dependent entities. It looks for every way and every opportunity to exert its influence, to infiltrate, control and eventually annex these countries. Therefore, in the relations between China and Thailand, which are currently considered to be close, there is a potential danger to the security and sovereignty of Thailand. These relations have already brought heavy pressure to bear upon Thailand in its domestic and foreign policies. One Thai scholar has observed: "Thailand has unintentionally allowed itself to be controlled and told what to do by the policy of China."

By establishing close ties to China, Thailand has increasingly become an effective tool used by China against the countries of Indochina. Under pressure from China, Thailand has made intensive efforts to fabricate charges against and falsely accuse Vietnam, to pick a fight with and harass Laos, to undermine the rebirth of Cambodia. Even though Thailand itself was a victim of the Pol Pot butchers and knows and detests the crimes they committed, because it has joined sides with China, Thailand is now giving refuge to the remnants of Pol Pot's forces and helping them to kill Cambodians. Thailand receives weapons being transported by China through Thai territory and turns them over to the Cambodian reactionaries. In 1981, Thailand gave China permission to use many airfields in eastern Thailand. Thailand is cooperating with China in the manufacture of light weapons on Thai soil so that they can be quickly supplied to the Cambodian reactionaries. Going even farther, Thailand has conducted military operations against the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

Their objective being to stabilize Southeast Asia, the Indochina countries as well as many countries within the ASEAN bloc have made many proposals that conform with both reason and sentiment aimed at settling the Cambodia issue but all these proposals have been rejected by China and, consequently, rejected by Thailand as well. Thailand's foreign policy is so extensively controlled by China that Thailand's views and conduct frequently cause concern on the part of some ASEAN countries --Thailand's close allies.

During the past several years, to carry out their plan to turn the Asia-Pacific region into a region of military and political confrontation with the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and national liberation forces, the United States has taken steps to increase its strength in this region. Once again, Thailand has shown itself anxious to serve U.S. interests. Since 1982, Thailand and the United States have conducted many joint military exercises. The United States has agreed to supply to Thailand many types of modern weapons, including F-16's. Deserving of attention is the fact that Thailand has agreed to allow the United States to set up strategic weapon arsenals on Thai soil. This could very likely lead to the reopening of U.S. military bases in Thailand because, according to U.S. regulations, the United States only establishes arsenals in those countries in which it has military bases.

By supplying military aid to Thailand, the United States and China have tied Thailand ever more tightly to their bellicose and reactionary policies and made Thailand a hostage, made Thailand a country that serves their interests. It is not difficult to see what the purpose of the United States is in granting aid to Thailand. For example, in 1984, of the 2,340 billion baht (94 million dollars) in aid supplied by the United States to Thailand, only 110 million baht was economic aid. All the rest was military aid. In recent years, the situation has remained the same. Almost all aid has been military aid. Economic aid has been nothing more than symbolic. Were the United States truly interested in the prosperity, stability and strength of Thailand, it would have to provide Thailand with much more economic assistance than military assistance. Moreover, in its army education and training aid plan, the United States frankly acknowledges that constant efforts will be made to change the thinking of Thai Army officers and politicians to bring it in line with American thinking, with the American way of life.

As a result of closely tying itself to the United States and China, Thailand, which is under the control of powerful capitalists, large landowners and reactionary right wing extremists, has continuously increased its national defense expenditures in order to buy many types of modern weapons. Thailand's NEW SIAM REVIEW lamented: "The major portion of the state budget allocated for the development of the country is being spent on the military and, in the final analysis, this becomes a tactic by which the United States plunders the resources of this region." In its relations with the United States and China, Thailand also wants to use the strength of the United States and China to "intimidate" neighboring countries and achieve its own expansionist designs, which include encroaching upon and occupying territory of Laos and Cambodia. But it is Thailand that is being used by the United States and China, especially to obstruct the rebirth of Cambodia and create tensions and instability within the region.

By following the lead of the United States and China, Thai authorities are not only going against the interests of the nations within the region, but also against the interests of the Thai people themselves. By maintaining close ties to the United States and China, Thailand has not made the country's political situation more stable, has not strengthened its security, has not improved its economy or society...but actually made every aspect of the situation worse with each passing day.

The political situation in Thailand is always unstable. The Thai weekly newspaper MISCELLANY (in its 9 July 1985 issue) evaluated Thailand's political and economic situation as follows: "The power structure on the upper level is in a state of complete disarray, democracy is not truly based on the power of the people and the economy is dependent upon foreign interests and the multinational corporations." The New York consulting firm of Frost and Sullivan ranks Thailand eighth on its list of countries that it considers the most politically unstable in the world. In Thailand, factions are always fighting one another for power. Military coup d'etats are a continuous occurrence. Before news of one subsides, news of another is reported. Since 1932, that is, when Thailand shifted from the autocratic monarchy to its present constitutional monarchy, there have been 15 coup d'etats in Thailand, the latest occurring on 9 September 1985. Also during those 54 years, civilians

were in power for only 11 years. On the surface, it appears as though the Thai Army exerts strong control over the political situation and system. The persons who have succeeded one another as prime minister of Thailand have been generals. However, according to former Thai Prime Minister Kukrit Pramot, real power is held by the millionaires--"the millionaires have more power than the government." Following the 9 September 1985 coup d'etat, many Thai became increasingly concerned over the country's political situation, a concern which grew even larger when the government of Prime Minister Prem became seriously divided and Prem was forced, on 1 May 1986, to declare the dissolution of the National Assembly, a full 1 year before the scheduled end of its term.

Thailand's economy, which was once considered prosperous and had achieved a high rate of growth, is now in a state of recession and decline. Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Oan-pho-uyt-do [Vietnamese phonetics] acknowledged in a report to the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives: "Thailand is experiencing a decline in its exports and has assumed an increasingly heavy debt burden." In fact, Thailand's debt to foreign countries has risen to 15 billion dollars. The United States has been very "generous" in supporting Thailand militarily. However, it has not given away any economic interests. Thailand's export market in the United States is shrinking. The United States wants to reduce the purchase of textiles from Thailand, thereby facing Thailand's export industry, a sector which employs as many as 600,000 workers (one-third of Thailand's total industrial workforce) with formidable difficulties. Rice, Thailand's number one export, faces stiff competition from the United States. In the next 3 years, the United States will spend roughly 15 billion dollars to promote the sale of U.S. agricultural products overseas. This will cause Thailand to suffer heavy losses. Thailand also faces sharp competition from China in the exportation of rice, textiles and handicraft products.

Thailand's economy is becoming increasingly dependent upon foreign countries and controlled by the monetary and trade policies of foreign creditor countries. In economic activities, freedom to commit fraud and force one another out of business have been maintained. Therefore, economic power rests with the group of monopolistic capitalists, which has caused mass bankruptcies among medium and small-scale capitalists. Hundreds of enterprises and corporations are insolvent, hundreds of thousands of workers have been fired and the majority of the people find it difficult to make ends meet. Thailand's weekly newspaper SPECIAL NEWS (in its 17 to 23 February 1986 issues) admitted: "The majority of the Thai are becoming poor."

In the case of farmers, who make up 75 percent of Thailand's population, the standard of living has been improved even more slowly. Prime Minister Prem, in a "Letter to the People," also admitted: "Only a small percentage of farmers has benefitted from Thailand's development during the past 20 years. This is the case of farm owners who live in regions where there are many sources of water. The remaining farmers have benefitted only very slightly or not at all... According to statistics, more than 10 million farmers are living below the poverty level." At present, due to low rice prices, even the farm owners who have "benefitted from development" find themselves in a difficult situation. This was why, on 6 January 1986, some 2,000 farm owners from the Northeast demonstrated in the capital Bangkok.

In Thailand today, the gap between the rich and the poor is very wide. In the factories and enterprises of Thailand, accidents on the job occur continuously because employers are only interested in profits not labor safety. The labor of the poor, especially children, is severely exploited. At a time when nearly 5 million persons are unemployed in Thailand, 60,000 of whom have a college or middle school education, the enterprises there are using very much child labor between the ages of 12 and 14. In Bangkok alone, there are nearly 5,000 enterprises employing child labor. Why is this? It is because child labor is cheaper than adult labor. By using child labor, employers become rich quicker. Even worse, children in Thailand have been turned into "live products" (in the most sinister meaning of the term). According to the Hong Kong press, Thailand is one of very few countries that still sell children. On the black market in Bangkok, anywhere from 200 to 500 children below the age of 15 are put on sale each day, each at a price of 100 to 250 dollars. And, as an added stroke of irony, although Thailand has become one of the leading exporters of rice in the world, nearly 50 percent of this country's children are starving or malnourished.

In Thailand, the American way of life is encouraged and social ills have been steadily on the rise. Prostitution has become a very profitable "trade." Thousands of brothel owners have joined together to protect and develop this "trade." In Bangkok alone, there are more than 300,000 prostitutes. Drug addiction is also a serious problem in Thailand's social life. At present, there are more than 600,000 drug addicts in Thailand, and this number is rising at the average rate of 5,500 persons per year. Some 60 percent of drug addicts are youths between the ages of 16 and 24. The number of criminals in Thailand is soaring. Murders and robberies take place everywhere, threatening not only the lives of Thai citizens, but also the lives of foreign tourists. In Thailand, fleecing foreign tourists has become a lucrative business. The remnant forces of Pol Pot hiding in Thailand have been actively participating in murders and robberies, thus making the situation even more serious. World opinion is concerned and frightened by the many barbarous crimes that have been and are being committed by Thai pirates against merchant and passenger ships of foreign countries as they pass by Thai territory.

Thai authorities are doing everything possible to hide and conceal the country's serious economic and social difficulties and making every effort to paint a picture of a "Thailand of stability, prosperity, tranquility and beauty." However, loyal Thai citizens of conscience who want their country to be beautiful once again are concerned about this situation day and night. Through words and actions, they are bringing to light all the difficulties in everyday life and social ills. They are denouncing and demanding that the government take steps to protect the interests of the people. More than a few Thai journalists have made important contributions in exposing and denouncing the corrupt practices, the deceitful tricks, the arbitrariness and the commercial dealings of administration officials as well as their complicity with and protection of criminals. However, these actions taken by journalists in the interest of the truth have been met with brutal suppression and terrorism by the administration and those who have caused these ills. Between April 1982 and the end of 1984 65 Thai journalists were murdered. In many of these cases, the perpetrators were protected by Thai officials.

Such is Thailand's political situation, its economic situation and the state of Thai society today. But the authorities of Thailand have intentionally closed their eyes to the truth of the country's situation and are collaborating ever more closely with the United States and China, are supporting the bellicose and reactionary policies of their foreign bosses. Clearly, if they continue to follow the United States and China, Thai authorities will bring to their country nothing but a bleak future fraught with difficulties and crime.

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U.S. TERRORISM AND SO CALLED "REGIONAL CONFLICTS"

Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese No 7, Jul 86 pp 102-106

[Article by Le Tinh]

[Text] Terrorism and so called "regional conflicts" are two aspects of U.S. foreign policy, mainly as it applies to Asia, Africa and Latin America. It can also be said that the Reagan administration is pursuing a policy of true terrorism—a policy of using military power—in the case of the developing countries. This is a salient characteristic of the world situation today.

Beginning in late March 1986, in the space of only 3 weeks, the Reagan administration arrogantly launched two attacks on Libya, the second more serious than the first. Washington is threatening and truly preparing to commit aggression against Libya once again. Regardless of whether the United States does attack Libya again, its recent aggression against Libya poses a grave danger. The entire world is indignantly denouncing the U.S. policy of international terrorism.

The struggle for national independence, democracy, social progress and peace by the nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America is a very intense struggle. In view of their natural resources, labor and markets, these former colonial regions are of strategic importance to imperialism. Therefore, the consistent policy of many generations of imperialist administrations, the thread that runs throughout these administrations, is to oppose, suppress and extinguish uprisings by these nations. Imperialism has an even deeper hatred of those countries that select the revolutionary, progressive, socialist path, the path of being completely against colonialism and imperialism. According to Western researchers, every war since World War II, with the exception of the 1947 civil war in Greece, has broken out in a former colonial region. All were started by Western imperialist powers, mainly the United States.

At a time when the United States and other imperialists are making every effort to suppress national liberation movements and opposing countries that have achieved national independence, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are doing everything possible to support national liberation movements and countries who possess national independence. The historic struggle between socialism and imperialism is a bitter struggle in the regions of the developing countries. This situation became even more clearly defined

when the current balance of strategic military forces was established between the two systems.

Socialism does not export revolution. Where a revolution breaks out is determined by conditions. This is a fact. However, when the revolution of a country is threatened, persons of conscience cannot sit and watch. They cannot allow imperialism to do as it pleases, to use violent force to wipe away the revolutionary gains made by nations. Since World War II, more than 100 countries have thrown off the yoke of colonial rule, many of which have advanced to build new social systems. This situation has angered the U.S. imperialists, the international gendarmes, particularly the Reagan administration, to their very marrow. For this reason, the Reagan administration considers the regions of the developing countries to be important factors in its foreign policy strategy, especially the Middle East, Central America, South Asia-the Pacific and Africa. The Reagan administration is insanely opposed to each revolutionary and progressive trend in all regions. Reagan also views the situations in other regions from the perspective of East-West relations, consequently, he has insolently labeled the Soviet Union as the source of all trouble in the various regions of the world. By accusing others of being what it itself is, the Reagan administration has found a reason to look for ways to extinguish "regional conflicts," the essence of which is to crush revolutionary movements in the Third World. Reagan has placed the issue of "regional conflicts" on the negotiating table with the Soviet Union. Reagan has demanded that the Soviet Union stop supporting revolutionary movements in the different regions of the world. Only then will the United States discuss the issue of reducing the arms race. This stand of the United States is the pinnacle of hypocrisy. The United States has attached equal importance to two issues that are totally different in terms of their origin and nature and demands that they be settled in completely different ways.

The illogical nature of this demand having been made clear, the United States has intensified its policy of military adventurism. Washington's main objective is to force socialism from the developing countries. These regions must, above everything else, be reserved exclusively for imperialism or, failing this, at least be dependent upon imperialism through hegemony or any other philosophy, provided that this philosophy has nothing to do with socialism.

The U.S. presidents who preceded Reagan had their own foreign policy doctrines. Reagan, because he has been busy dealing with the domestic socio-economic situation, has yet to formulate a foreign policy doctrine that bears his name. He has had to rely upon the innovations made by his predecessors. Oddly enough, those who prescribed the policy of military terror against these regions are headed current Secretary of State Shultz. He has stated that "we are prepared to use military force" to protect U.S. interests in these regions. In April 1984, the office of the President issued Order Number 134 permitting the implementation of a policy of terror and violent force in the name of "using military power" to combat so called "terrorism."

The Reagan group's strategy of using military force against the developing

countries is calculated to be applied in the following cases: first, in the case of "non-communist" countries in which there is a revolutionary movement, the United States will help the administration to resolutely crush this movement. Secondly, in the case of countries that are "non-communist" but are also steadfastly anti-imperialist, the United States will use its military power to intervene. Thirdly, in the case of "communist" countries against which there is opposition from counter-revolutionary forces, the United States will directly assist these forces in resisting the revolution to the end. Fourthly, in the case of any "communist" country which the United States maintains lies within the scope of its vital interests, the United States will surround this country, exert pressure and even directly attack it.

The United States has also urged lackey countries to provoke and attack neighboring countries that do not support the United States or uses these lackey countries as the rear bases of counter-revolutionary powers.

The Reagan group has arrogantly proclaimed that it is determined to "take the offensive" against progressive regimes instead of acknowledging "communist domination" in these regions. Although this bellicose argument does not deceive many people, it has awakened a chauvinist attitude among some U.S. conservatives, particularly representatives of the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex. This explains the recent votes in the U.S. Congress, particularly in the Senate, supporting the President's request for aid for counter-revolutionary powers in these regions. Washington plans to pursue this adventurous military policy for at least "one generation." They say that national democratic revolutions and the wave of anti-imperialist sentiment in the regions of the Third World are "the real threats with which we (the United States) will have to deal the most in the years ahead."

Revolutionary forces never consider counter-attacks by imperialist powers that are losing the historic initiative to be something frightening, something with which they cannot deal. However, we do not take the resurgence of revanchist powers in the United States lightly. The current shift by the United States to a policy of armed force poses a long-term danger. Moreover, the U.S. imperialists attacked Libya not just to threaten Libya and the Third World. This event must be viewed against a broader background. America had a very cunning purpose in selecting Libya as a target for an armed counter-attack. Libya is an independent, sovereign and non-communist country but loves freedom and social progress and is determined to oppose imperialism. This stand taken by Libya has widespread support in the world. By attacking Libya, the United States insolently challenged all revolutionary forces in the world, challenged the Soviet Union and socialism. The rumble of the bombs in the capital Tripoli signalled a new step tantamount to military adventurism in the incredible ambitions of the U.S. imperialists. They seek to regain what they have lost in the Third World since World War II, particularly since the 1970's, when the United States was mired in the rice paddies of Vietnam. They want to reverse the decline of U.S. imperialism. They want to impede the process of the national democratic revolution. They want to stop socialism's momentum of victory. They want to abolish communism. By attacking Libya and advancing the so called "regional issue," the United States sought to attack the Soviet Union and socialist forces. Their plan is to counter-attack the Soviet Union's strategy for development and peace. By conducting brazen acts

of terrorism against Libya, the Reagan administration is creating new tensions, new hotpoints and has put international relations and East-West relations into their worst state since November 1985. They want to impede the great strides that will be taken by the Soviet Union for the sake of a future of peace for the Soviet Union and all mankind following the 27th Congress of the CPSU.

The new anti-communist crusade of the Reagan group is indeed posing obstacles to the advance of the revolution in some countries. The bitter class struggle between the two world social systems is not purely a struggle that is taking place on the ideological front, but is also an armed, bloody struggle to some extent. We revolutionaries must recognize the enemy's perfidious schemes and tactics and correctly analyze the comparison of forces at each place and time as well as from an overall perspective so that we can adopt correct strategies and tactics and defeat them.

The ambitions of the United States are very large. However, the weaknesses of the United States are even larger. Reagan and his clique thought that killing President Qadhafi on the spot would send to both the opposition and allies a message of the victory of their hard line policy. But things are not that simple. The gangster-style attack on Libya once again revealed the deep and inherent antagonisms of the U.S. imperialists.

First, one very large effort of the Reagan administration is to restore unity at home, overcome the "Vietnam syndrome" and restore the will, strength and confidence of the American people. However, the Libyan incident has deeply divided the United States and caused a split between the United States and its allies. In U.S. political circles, there are sharply different points of view concerning the limits of military power. The blind and reckless use of military power did not bring glory to the United States in the Vietnam war. Today, the situation is very much different. In the Vietnam war, because the United States concealed what was going on, it was punished slowly, even though it ultimately met defeat. Today, opinion has been awakened and is very sensitive and alert. Every arrogant action of the United States is quickly exposed and opposed.

The situation in Vietnam proved that the power of the United States, although large, does have its limits. Although the Reagan administration seeks to overcome the Vietnam syndrome, it has plunged headlong down the very same path that thwarted the efforts of five preceding U.S. presidents. There is no guarantee that Reagan will be victorious in pursuing the course that lead to the defeat of his five predecessors. Very many Americans and friends of the United States do not want a repeat of Vietnam.

Secondly, the Reagan administration is supplying money and arms to various counter-revolutionary groups in the world to wage so called "guerrilla wars against communist dictators." But who, it can be asked, are the "freedom fighters" conducting these guerrilla activities? They are bandits. They are the Afghanistan bandits, the Khmer reactionaries, the UNITA bandits, the Ethiopian counter-revolutionaries, the Mozambique traitors, the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionary exiles... There is not one place of progress, revolution, independence and freedom into which Washington has not thrust its

bloody interventionist hands. The reactionary powers supported by the United States are nothing more than mobs whose sole purpose is to plunder. They are against the people, against the revolution and against legitimate governments. They never have a base of support among the people. To the contrary, the people hold them in contempt. Their "guerrilla" wars involve nothing more than acts of plunder and looting, acts designed to create disorder and are totally unjust. These forces are highly isolated in the world. Clearly, the efforts of the United States to breathe life into these forces, be it in Asia, Africa or Latin America, are a cause without a future.

Thirdly, by attacking Libya, attacking the Third World on the pretext of fighting terrorism, the U.S. imperialists have shown themselves to be the leading international terrorist, to be the worst terrorist state. The Reagan administration has assumed the right to call any country or any group that opposes it a "terrorist." Reagan's logic is this: whatever I do not like, I call terrorism. How perverse it is when the leading terrorist, when the most insane terrorist state raises the "anti-terrorism" banner!?

The situation is truly ridiculous to a degree unprecedented: at a time when the U.S. government is calling for a fight against terrorism in other countries, terrorism is spreading the fastest in the United States itself. In the message he delivered in early 1985, Reagan admitted that "our United States is spreading the scourge of terrorism." In the United States today, there are more than 2,000 terrorist organizations. They are called by many different names. In the 10 years that ended in 1983, some 440,000 persons were killed and 1.7 million persons were injured by these terrorist organizations. These figures exceed the number of U.S. casualties in World War II.. Compared to any act of terrorism blamed by Reagan on others, terrorism in the United States is far worse in every respect. It is difficult to find another country on earth in which terrorism is so bad. Until the United States abolishes social injustice and the divisions between the rich and the poor, until it puts a stop to the support, toleration, assistance and collaboration of capitalist groups and police agencies with terrorist organizations, the United States cannot rid itself of terrorism at home.

The terrorist organizations in the United States are nothing more than gangs of hoodlums who rob from others. But the Reagan administration is a "terrorist state" that threatens the security of independent and sovereign countries and threatens the survival of all nations.

Fourthly, the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union possess the strength to mobilize and awaken billions of persons. Mankind is becoming increasingly aware of the danger, of the scourge of nuclear war. This demands that man's thinking on war and the use of military power change. Everyone who loves peace and is a person of conscience is demanding that the policy makers of imperialism disassociate themselves completely and resolutely from the way of thinking and acting that has formed over the past several centuries on the basis of tolerating wars and armed conflicts. In light of this, the shift by the United States to using military power and practicing international terrorism is an outmoded and misguided action that goes against the tide of events and leads nowhere.

National independence, democracy, social progress and peace are irreversible trends.

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CSO: 4210/12

END

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Southeast Asia Report



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LAOS

SRV-AIDED PASSENGER BOAT DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 5 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by Kongmali: "The Ship 'Nam Khong 2'"]

[Excerpt] The ship "Nam Khong 2," the second passenger ship, is being built with the assistance of Vietnamese cadres and workers of the "Tambak" Ship-building Corporation. They are working with the cadres and workers of the Lao Marine Transportation Corporation to build the passenger ship.

Comrade Somvang Dengchampa, the head of the Marine Transportation Corporation, said that construction of the ship "Nam Khong 2" was begun at the end of May and on 31 July it was put in the water. Now construction is thought to be 70 percent complete.

The "Nam Khong 2" is a steel passenger ship with 220 seats. It is 41 meters long and 6.2 meters wide, and it draws 1.4 meters. It has two 290-horsepower engines which run on diesel fuel. It is able to go 22 km per hour. Speaking of the construction and components of the boat, there were some changes from the ship "Mekong 1." These were made for the comfort of the passengers; the toilets, special sleeping rooms, and resting rooms were increased.

At present the Lao and Vietnamese cadres and workers are working hard to install the engines and wiring and to paint and assemble various pieces of equipment. This will be completed and there will be a presentation of ceremony in the middle of September. All this was done to increase steadily the volume of marine transportation and to achieve results to honor the upcoming Fourth Party Congress.

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LAOS

ARMY EDITORIAL DISCUSSES WEAKNESSES IN TRAINING

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 4 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

["Editorial" Column: "Training for New Combatants Must Be Upgraded"]

[Text] During the past years recruit training has been important for many army units. It has been carried out using many methods. Good cooperation between training and practice, and between studies and strict compliance with regulations, has upgraded the quality of the training. However, there are still some army units that do not yet have a correct understanding of the important stance of recruit training as well as firm guidance. Some recruit trainers still have limited capability in many respects. Their experience and quality of training is still low. After the training some recruits are still not able to respond to the expected military duty, causing a problem for the units.

Upgrading recruit training will not only help the recruits to carry out their duty effectively, but will also bring success to army reserve duty for citizens so they can become new socialist men. Thus, commanders at each level must have a correct understanding, and they must consider recruit training important.

Although [well-qualified] mature men were selected to serve in the army, the total number of these men has not yet increased, and they have not yet been trained. Also, these men came from many schools, many different localities, different living standards, and different backgrounds. In order to have training that is effective, the new combatants that are assigned to army units must lead the recruits in a military life-style, and must help them to become combatants who understand military life quickly and to do things correctly. In order to achieve this, the [combatants] must first of all pay close attention to training to help the recruits realize their honor and responsibility as new combatants, to realize the true nature and the good heritage of our army, and to understand the goal of the revolutionary duty in the present period. The new combatants should work enthusiastically. They should study and train themselves so they can succeed in all the duties assigned to them by the army. Along with training in political ideology, they must carry out regular military training. Because the training period is short, each lesson and each training activity must be planned out in detail for each training day. Teachers must act as

correct models during supervision periods. Also, the teachers must follow up and point out weaknesses so that the students can improve in a timely fashion. Now many recruits have a fairly high cultural level and understand quickly. Therefore, when teaching theory the science must be taught clearly without confusion, otherwise the students will lose confidence in the teachers and will not pay attention in the training field. Training and compliance with regulations and other work should be carried out together on a daily basis. No matter how much they learn, they must practice it. The lessons that they have already learned must be applied immediately. The reason for doing this is to help them to get used to implementing the rules and regulations of the army correctly right from the beginning. In order to achieve this the cadres must closely and strictly supervise them in their daily practice. The older cadres and combatants must be models in strict adherence to rules and regulations everywhere and at all times, so that the new combatants will follow. Following regulations and observing discipline is one of the most important goals of recruit training. Thus, there must be a resolute and strict method in order to maintain and carry out regulations on the first day and throughout the training period. First of all, there is a need for everyone to have a correct understanding of the regulations of the Revolutionary Army, namely to be awakened to carry them out. At the same time, the standard of living both materially and nonmaterially must be well organized so the new combatants will have a happy life in the units, and all combatants will feel at ease with the collective style of living.

Recruit training is an annual duty of our army in order to promote the quality of recruit training in an ongoing manner. The units must organize well-qualified cadres with good abilities and work experience to facilitate training in the units. Another important aspect of effective recruit training is to ensure that the recruits have a place to live, eat and to carry out their daily activity, and of course places for training must reach the indicated quota with a guarantee of plenty of food and clothing, [performing arts] to create a happy atmosphere, and fraternal solidarity among the recruits and the cadres themselves. If we achieve this, there is no doubt that recruit training must immediately have good quality within the period of time specified.

9884/9190
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LAOS

ARMY EDITORIALS DISCUSS SELF-CRITICISM CAMPAIGN

Pace Faulted

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON. LAO in Lao 10 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

["Editorial" Column: "The Party Chapters' Responsibility in Political Life Style and the Self-Criticism Campaign"]

[Text] The campaign of the party chapters to boost the spirit of the political life-style has the greatest significance in educating and training party members to maintain their strong revolutionary nature, promote a good leadership role, and promote [their enthusiasm to become models].

[The party chapters] are the immediate sources for educating and training party members. By carrying out their duties the party chapters will become strong, and by means of self-criticism and criticism of each other on a regular basis they will ensure internal solidarity and will help the party members to understand how to promote their strength and improve their shortcomings in a timely fashion in fulfilling their duty.

The fact is that only when the party chapters use management in all work aspects will it be possible to have work inspection, follow-up, observation and correct assessment of the members, and this will help them to train themselves in earnest. Any party chapter that promotes a high spirit of fighting during the party term using effective criticism as their weapons will be making good progress, and the party members themselves will have a major leading role as models. On the other hand, for any party chapter that neglects management, and especially if it takes self-criticism lightly, it is certain that the true nature of its members will become worse. There will be a lack of trust and love from the masses, and this will decrease the benefits of the party organization.

The campaign for political life-style and self-criticism within the party is being carried out extensively down to the grassroots, throughout our army. Most of the grassroots party organizations have strictly carried out inspection, pointed out strengths and weaknesses, and indicated methods for improvement. However, there are still a number of party organizations that have not yet become thorough and firm in their inspection work. They still do not take the work seriously as they should. The reasons for this are, first

of all, because the party chapters cannot expand their roles and responsibility fast enough. They have not made the party members clearly understand their responsibility in self-criticism yet, and they also lack effective ways of criticizing to make it more effective. The experience of this life-style campaign has indicated that although the masses will attentively express their opinions and criticism and the higher echelons give detailed guidance, if the party chapters do not have enthusiasm the outcome of self-criticism will not be high. This is even more of a problem for the party chapters whose members have status and power, and who were long ago condemned by the masses for their hopeless nature and serious shortcomings.

There are still many party chapters that try to compromise and do not dare to fight against the mistakes of their members. For example, this means the mistakes of the party members who are high level cadres and those who have high status and power. The reason for this is that because of the lesser role of the party chapters, the members with high status have gradually gotten away from the principles of the party. They do not humble themselves in the organization, and do not think highly of the party chapter. So that when they take part in the life-style of the chapter it is the same as guiding and sharing ideas by the high-level cadres at the meetings.

These mistakes must be corrected quickly in this life-style campaign. The roles and responsibility of each party chapter must be clearly demonstrated in the form of self-criticism, and the mistakes of each party member must be clearly shown. Absolutely no member must go without criticism and assistance, regardless of his position and his work.

It is important to examine and criticize the mistakes of party members. The party chapters must give the reasons for the mistakes, summarize them properly, and set up ways for improvement. It is absolutely necessary for the party chapters to have a [disciplinary investigation] when they see the shortcomings of any party member. If the mistakes are not serious enough to have a [disciplinary investigation], the party chapters must have a comprehensive method to help that member to improve himself resolutely, and to make progress.

As for the party chapters with no significant problems and whose members have no big mistakes, the inspection must be done on a regular basis in order to check each member's revolutionary spirit, consciousness, responsibility, work efficiency and work outcome, so that he can see his strengths and weaknesses. We must work together so that all units and every party organization can reach these lofty goals in this life-style campaign, which is to bring about a real change in terms of the quality of leadership and the responsibility of all party members.

Self-criticism and criticism among the members in each party chapter is important for guaranteeing a high achievement for the life-style campaign, and for the glorious success of different levels of the party congress and the coming Fourth Party Congress.

Weaknesses in Effort Noted

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 24 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

["Editorial" Column: "We Should Be Highly Responsible in Giving Attention to Self-Criticism"]

[Text] The atmosphere now of all the parties, armies and the people is one of carrying out the political life-style campaign mobilized by the party central secretariat as preparation for the Fourth Party Congress and the party congress of different levels.

This political life-style campaign is a very important one. We must be firm in our understanding of its significance and goals, and we must have correct ways to carry it out in order to implement the plenum of the party central secretariate effectively.

The political weapon in this life-style campaign is self-criticism and criticism among ourselves. It is very important for our party in order to assess correctly the primary plans and our work, to assess correctly the quality of the party organizations, the cadres and the party members for the purpose of promoting the strengths and improving weaknesses, for eliminating discouraging phenomena, and for encouraging the power of the party's struggle and the quality of the cadres and party members in fulfilling all of their revolutionary duties.

We are preparing for the Fourth Party Congress as the nation is at an important turning point, namely the beginning of the turning point for advancing to socialism. In the past years we had many fundamental victories, but we are now facing great difficulties for many subjective and objective reasons. Our standard of living is creating many important problems, and our party must focus on solving them. Our party wants, more than ever, to promote self-criticism immediately and effectively. The political life-style and self-criticism campaign is being mobilized now in order to assess and learn from the past work experiences, and to assess cadres correctly and comprehensively so that we can see their progress and shortcomings, the right and wrong views and ideology and work methods, and look for the reasons, for example, for subjectivity and the responsibility of party organizations and individuals according to the rights and duties assigned to them. This political life-style and self-criticism campaign will boost the power of leadership and the organization and carrying out of the party's policies, raise consciousness in setting regulations for cadres and party members, and increase contact between the party and the masses so the selection of representatives to committees of all levels at the party congress will be done correctly. When self-criticism and criticism among ourselves has its glorious result, we will then have the foundation for setting the direction and plan, and for finding solutions to problems and ways to make steady progress.

Usually it is easy to talk about good points, but we run into problems when we discuss weaknesses. For example, in the present situation discouraging phenomena are increasing. Thus, [we] must go through the struggle of the rights and interests of the whole and for individual work sections, and also for the individual in order to see the [truth]. It is not easy to be honest in discussing weaknesses, such as one's own and those of one's work section. Therefore, this political life-style campaign along with correct work assessment and strengths must focus on the part that is most difficult, i.e., doing our best to discuss our weaknesses honestly.

Even though we have gone through self-criticism many times, there are still many cadres and party members who are not yet effective in carrying out self-criticism, and have not talked of their weaknesses honestly. Thus, they cannot see anything [new] or the [old part] that needs to be changed. Also, there are still cadres and party members who do not understand reality and have not yet correctly understood the true situation. They assess the situation incorrectly. Thus, they always see the work they do as guiding and commanding without any mistakes.

If we want to have effective self-criticism we must fight against individualism in all ways, and improve the goals of the life-style campaign, and clearly understand the responsibilities of each party organization, each party member and each cadre toward the lofty interests of the party and of the revolution. Effective self-criticism will be of great use in facilitating the revolution and in continuing to fight for victories. Lack of effectiveness in self-criticism will bring problems and disunity which will not be able to be solved in a suitable period of time. They will drag on, causing many undesirable effects.

Self-criticism must be thorough in order for the political life style campaign to have a glorious success. If the criticism is done in a general fashion without clearly pointing out a specific person or a specific work, then who will be responsible for the mistakes if there is nothing specific to be changed? Finally, this will cause the work to stay the same, or to get worse.

In each party organization, every cadre and party member must first of all increase his responsibility and spirit of struggle, and promote the benefits of the party and the revolution. The important thing is that we must criticize ourselves. Each work section must criticize itself, and each individual must criticize himself without waiting for criticism from the higher echelons or from the lower levels, and without thrusting responsibility onto the higher echelons, the lower levels, and must be objective. Cadres and party members often have higher status in party organizations. Thus, their responsibility to be a model of self-criticism is even greater. Cadres and party members who are the leaders at each level in each unit must become true models of self-criticism. If party members who are cadres with status and power do not have the courage for criticism, if they are afraid of being criticized and do not dare to criticize, they will not be able to create a democratic atmosphere. The self-criticism will not be careful or complete.

Everything must have the aim of fulfilling the goals of strengthening our party and leading the revolutionary work through all problems, strongly advancing forward.

The political life-style and self-criticism campaign must be a glorious success and must take an important part in the great opening of the successful upcoming Fourth Party Congress.

Further Discussion

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 7 Aug 86 pp 1, 4

["Editorial" Column: "We Must Give Attention to Self-Criticism in the Party Along with Self-Criticism for the Masses"]

[Excerpts] A basic principle that our party must always be strict in carrying out in all its activities is to have a close relationship with the masses. This means stability and growth in all achievements of the party in leading the revolution.

Our party's close relationship with the masses is built upon the basic ideology, namely, "the party is a true and honest leader of the people."

The aim of the political life-style and self-criticism campaign is not only to fulfill the courageous, sincere, objective and scientific aspects of the cadres and party members and the party organization, but also to make it possible in every way for the masses to participate in criticizing the party organization and also the cadres and party members, because [we] cannot do without the opinion of the masses.

Although self-criticism may be done correctly, the party organization and also the cadres and party members cannot see all of their own strengths and weaknesses, especially the weaknesses. It is for this reason that observation by the masses is needed.

All the strengths and weaknesses of leadership at all levels will affect the masses. When a plan, a policy or a method is carried out correctly, bringing nonmaterial and spiritual benefits to the masses, it will have a favorable influence on the standard of living of the masses. On the other hand, if there is an error in leadership whether small or not, it will harm the masses. Therefore, no one will be as clear and as frank on the strengths and weaknesses of leadership and guidance as the masses. The more comprehensive the opinions of the masses, the greater the effects will be. It will help our party to see all of its strengths and weaknesses since the Third Party Congress because of its leadership status throughout the country. It will be apparent how well our party has accomplished its duty, what has been done and what has not been done, and what has been done well and what has not been done well. Has our party succeeded in its important duty of being true and honest toward the people? After the self-criticism and the masses' opinions, our party will see its own strengths and weaknesses completely and clearly. Of course, all

the work will be improved. The party will promote strength and will work through its weaknesses. The party's power will increase.

Confidence that the masses previously lost toward a number of cadres and party members might be gained back. In the criticism and observations by the masses there will certainly be some things that were not clear, and the party committee and the party members must consider them seriously and be quick to modify or accept them if they are correct. They must try to find explanations so the masses will be able to understand if they think they have been wrong. Whether the masses' opinions are correct or not, or whether the cadres and party members accept them or not, there should not be a situation where the masses are not recognized, or are not given any answers.

9884/12851

CSO: 4206/148

LAOS

CHAMPASSAK DISTRICT GUERRILLA OPERATIONS DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by K. Khounnousai: "Khong District Guerrillas Advance to a Period of New Effort"]

[Excerpt] In 1985 the guerrilla forces of Khong District were honored as a district force which was strong and industrious in its operations to maintain the peace in its locality.

In order to expand on the results of last year and advance in 1986, the military headquarters of Khong District, Champassak Province, and the guidance committee and command committee for guerrilla forces throughout the district were unified. They have an operations policy and new duties for 1986 which are improved.

The first step was for the commanders of each canton in the district to get together for a meeting to arrive at a unified plan to divide up the areas to be patrolled for each week and each month.

In the second step the person responsible for guerrilla activities throughout the district established a detailed military training policy for each canton in order that all command cadres and combatants of guerrilla units would be more skilled in combat operations and patrolling their locality.

In the third step each guerrilla unit in each canton had to summarize both the good and the inadequate results of its operations to keep the peace in its production area. Then it was to come up with methods to correct and improve on the deficiencies.

After taking these steps, they summarized some prominent problems as follows: 6 months of 1986 the peace was unbroken and the operations of the remaining remaining reactionaries were suppressed in each canton. The guerrilla forces received a command headquarters. There was a guerrilla unit on duty 24 hours a day. It was the duty of the guerrilla unit on duty to wait for the commanders orders. If there was a suspicious occurrence in their area of responsibility or if there was evidence of an operation by a plundering team, this guerrilla unit had the duty of searching for and finding its hiding place quickly.

In addition to being a force bringing peace to the people in their district, the guerrilla units throughout the district have also become a reliable network for the soldiers of the localities; the soldiers continuously receive reports summarizing conditions, which they compile and report to local units stationed in their localities.

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LAOS

MOUNTAIN AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SECURITY ROLE NOTED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by K. Khounnousai: "The Mountain Area Development Corporation and Construction at the Grassroots Level"]

[Excerpts] After the party and state and the Ministry of Defense agreed and officially authorized the setting up of the mountain area development corporation in the beginning of 1985, the organization in the form of a corporation took shape almost completely and started to carry out its special duties through various branches. The corporation considers that the construction of grassroots production is essential for corporation with the administration and the people of various areas on a broad basis. Because of this, in the past 12 months the corporation has taken care to use the political cadres close to operations and has created close ties and an understanding of various conditions with the administrations situated around the corporation. And so in the past 12 months the corporation has set up one grassroots construction unit in Khamkeut District and has started operations in the eight cantons of the district. It has set up a grassroots construction unit in Nyommalat District to operate in the four cantons of the Nakai Plateau. These grassroots construction units include the party committee and administrative committee at the canton level and cooperate broadly with guerrilla and self-defense units in each village. The principal duty of this mobile unit is propaganda to convince the people to change to cooperative rice production, to build a people's war network, and to build model villages to work to maintain the peace. In the past 12 months the corporation has shifted 56 Hmong families of Kengdeng Canton to wet-field rice farming. They helped the people build an irrigation system in Kengdeng Canton which can irrigate 50 hectares. They built an irrigation system to help the people of Thongsenthamat; in this area more than 1,000 hectares have been cleared for wet-field rice. At present they are clearing 50 more hectares. The corporation has also built schools, hospitals, and restaurants to serve the cadres, combatants, and people in the surrounding area, and they administered these equally for all. As regards building a cooperative trade network, the corporation helped the administrative powerholders at the district and canton levels to set up cooperative stores of the people in 12 locations. These solved the problem of daily necessities such as rice, salt, lamp oil, clothing, and production tools for farmers.

In summary, in the past 12 months the mountain area development corporation has built support among the people for the policies of our party and state in operating at the grassroots production level. The people and the administration in the mountain areas far from the towns are at peace and are mobilized to build the economy so that barter with the state will expand broadly. The operations of the reactionaries were ripped out completely. The ties between the cadres and combatants of the corporation and the people and their administration are closer every day.

On this occasion of achieving results to honor the Fourth Party Congress, the mountain area development corporation considers that grassroots construction is a struggle to make various activities better than in the past.

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LAOS

VIENTIANE PUBLIC SECURITY OPERATIONS, COMBAT WITH ENEMY

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 4 Aug 86 p 2

["News" column by Sengsouli Souansoulin: "Public Security Activity in Vientiane City"]

[Excerpt] In the first 6 months of 1986 our capital city of Vientiane has given increased attention to improving the public security forces in every area and has mobilized the strength of the masses to take part in these activities as masters. During the present period they have been able to defend the first congress of the party committee of Vientiane so that it was 100 percent safe. In addition they also protected the congress of Asian Buddhist organizations, various youth gatherings, the offices of high-level organizations, international organizations, and foreign experts and guests. The city also vigorously reoriented the public security forces toward the grassroots. On the basis of expanding on the lessons drawn from defending the celebrations of the two historic days of our nation, which were 100 percent safe, and with true revolutionary character, they achieved an undying spirit of responsibility. Our paramilitary units were able to fight back against the destructive schemes of the enemy and defeat them with 58 combat operations to destroy the enemy and to defend the border and important targets. They killed two of the enemy and seized two weapons. They captured 18 of the enemy. They stationed 16 cadres and combatants in production bases in each district. They arranged construction in production bases on 33 occasions. They organized internal defense, border defense, and defense of the economy and the society's culture in a regular and strict fashion, which showed real results such as: they were able to capture 11 reactionaries and spies slipping in and kill 2; they inspected and searched with operations targets which were not good for society; they investigated and solved a number of cases; they issued personal identification cards to 47,609 cadres and people; they sent 31 cadres down to production bases on a long-term basis; they organized political education and military training for 2,388 cadres, combatants, guerrillas, and students on more than 10 occasions; they arranged the broadcasting of conditions on 12 occasions; and they started 6 short-term political education courses for 958 cadres and combatants.

Serving in paramilitary units to defend the nation is a worthy obligation for our young people to perform for the nation. The cadres of the public security service of Vientiane City have recruited 43 young people as soldiers (just from Chanthabouli District).

In addition to undertaking these tasks with great responsibility and with success after success, the cadres and combatants of the public security service of Vientiane City worked at producing to support themselves in food. They displayed solidarity in working the dry-season rice and harvested 8,500 tons. They cleared 13 hectares of land for wet-field rice, raised 174 head of cattle and buffalo, and dug 2 fish ponds. They also plowed 159 hectares of wet fields for various agricultural cooperatives, which were worth 2 million kip, and have created an income of 1,912,200 kip from administering the people, etc.

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LAOS

COLUMN NOTES FAILURE OF TRADING COOPERATIVES

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 30 Jul 86 p 2

["Conversations with the editor": "The Problems of Shareholders in a Trading Cooperative Which Were Not Corrected"]

[Text] To the editor of the newspaper VIENTIANE MAI.

We members of a trading cooperative have problems and doubts and would like the editor to help urge the upper echelons involved to solve the problem in the proper way. The problems involve the former trading cooperative of Ban Don Moun Village which the upper echelons mobilized us to set up. After we had carried on trading and bartering for a time, the cooperative collapsed because some of the cadres fled. The people who remained did not continue the business, but there were many members who had paid to become partners. The cooperative has been dissolved for many months, but the partnership money has not been returned to the members. When we asked the cadres and the administration about it, they said to wait for the upper echelons to take care of it. When we asked the canton administrative officials, they said to wait for the upper echelons to take care of it. We went and asked some district administrative officials and they differed and said to wait for the lower echelons to take care of it. In this situation we do not know who can help and so we have brought the problem to the editor so that he will help urge the upper echelons involved to come and correct this for us. Therefore, may we trouble the editor to help us and all the members of the former cooperative?

Thank you.

From the members of the Don Moun Cooperative

S. Saithani

To the dear comrade who uses the name S. Saithani:

This discussion with you about the problem you mentioned may have been delayed. Sometimes the problems are already corrected and I am unaware. Therefore I beg your pardon if it is corrected already, although it would be for the best. But if it has not been corrected, I will recommend that the local administration correct it quickly; I am speaking especially of the village administration involved, which has the primary responsibility. Another approach would be to ask for the guidance of upper echelons, such as the canton and district administrations involved, so that they could be witnesses and offer advice.

This is the opinion I wish to share and I am confident that this small problem will not involve any great difficulties.

Goodbye.

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LAOS

VIENTIANE DOLLAR TRADE FIGURES NOTED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 5 Aug 86 p 2

["Presentation" column by Chanthaphon Vannachit: "Trade in the First 6 Months of 1986"]

[Excerpt] In the first 6 months of 1986 the 2,227 cadres handling trade throughout Vientiane City were unified in struggle. The income for the 6 months was 1,831,928,189 kip, which fulfilled 45.7 percent of the plan for 6 months. Income in foreign currency amounted to \$569,899, which fulfilled 14.3 percent of the plan. Expenses in kip amounted to 1,527,384,602 kip, which was 58.3 percent of the plan. Expenses in foreign currency amounted to \$2,473,531, which was 26.1 percent of the plan. In addition, obligations to the budget were fulfilled in the amount of 217,743,717 kip, which was 41.3 percent of the plan.

They were also able to requisition and barter for 13,861 tons of rice from the end of 1985 until the present. They received goods to serve the state workers valued at 56,976,535 kip and sold goods to serve the state workers for 44,109,568 kip.

As for trading cooperatives, 10 more were added in the first 6 months of this year. Added to the existing units, these total 194. The trading cooperatives bartered goods for rice from the people amounting to 378,719,598 kip, which was calculated to be the value of the 23,912 tons of unhusked rice. They requisitioned and bartered for 12,983 tons of rice and fulfilled 60.23 percent of the plan.

In addition to goods shipped to serve in Vientiane City, exports to foreign countries amounted to \$473,194 and imports totaled \$1,037,585.

While these other activities were going on, the cadres handling trade also persuaded and mobilized 133 more private merchants to shift to collective socialist activity and become shareholders. Added to the existing shareholders, they total 209, which amounts to \$209,000.

At present trade throughout Vientiane City is steadily being improved so that the various goods will serve the people completely.

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LAOS

GENERAL PADIT DIES, CAREER OUTLINED

Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 26 Jun 86 pp 1, 3

[Article: "Obituary of Brigadier General Padit Thiangtham"]

[Text] It is with sadness that the National Defense Ministry, the Army General Political Department, the cadres and combatants of the Military Justice Corps and the family announce to relatives and friends that Brigadier General Padit Thiangtham, chief of the Military Court in the Ministry of National Defense, died at 21:15 on 22 June 1986 in Hospital 103 after a period of illness. Though he was taken good care of by the organization and the doctors, because of his serious condition he could not be saved. He was 61.

A wake was held at the club of the Army General Political Department in Vientiane. A memorial service was held at 13:00 on 23 June 1986 and the funeral was at 13:00 on 24 June 1986 at the Km 5 Camp in the Quartermaster Department.

Brief Biography of Brigadier General Padit Thiangtham

He was born on 15 March 1925 to a poor farmer family of the Lao Loum race in Ban Meaung Moun, Meaung Moun Canton, Champassak Province.

Because of his deep patriotism and his hatred for the French colonialists and reactionary feudalists, he volunteered to join the revolution in 1946. He became a member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party on 20 August 1955. After the revolution he was assigned to the following posts in the army. On 15 March 1946 he was a soldier in Saichakkaphat Company, and he became commander of Platoon 10 under the [military propaganda unit] in 1946. In 1951 he commanded a company moving back to the stronghold in Sam Neua in order to join the other Sam Neua liberation unit at the end of 1953. Later he led the company in building a resistance base in Nam Bak in Luang Prabang Province. At the end of 1954 he was assigned to the post of battalion commander under the Phong Saly Province unified area.

In late 1955 he was sent back for training in the Sam Neua stronghold. He was then assigned to work as a representative on a peace talks committee in Laos in 1960. Following the coup in Vientiane he went back to work in

the Xieng Khouang liberated zone. In 1962 he went with the Vientiane peace talks committee as a cease-fire committee member, and he worked on the [political struggle committee]. In 1973-75 he was assigned to be a assistant chief of the [joint cease fire committee] in Vientiane. In 1976 following the seizure of power he became chief of the office of the National Defense Ministry. In 1983 he became chief of the military court department, where he remained until his death.

He was praised for his good deeds and his good revolutionary qualities by the state chairman, the LPDR council of ministers, and our friendly allies with the following medals: a first class revolutionary medal, a second class independence medal, a third class independence medal, a second class military achievement by the Vietnamese People's Army, a French resistance medal, an American resistance medal, a Mongolian Army medal, and a 5-year medal.

9884/9190

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LAOS

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER KHAMSOUK PROFILED

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 7 Aug 86 pp 1, 4

[Article: "A brief Biography of Comrade Khamsouk Saignaseng"]

[Text] Comrade Khamsouk Saignaseng was born in June 1915 in Ban Kathou Neua Village, Kathou Canton, Viangthong District, Saravane Province. He was the son of Mr Tham and Mrs Gneun. His origins were the poor farming class of the Lao Theung ethnic group (Alak). He joined the revolution in 1949 and became a party member in 1951.

The periods of his revolutionary activity are as follows:

- Before he joined the revolution in 1949 he was captured by the enemy and imprisoned for a period. After getting out of prison he went on with revolutionary activity.
- In 1949 he became a member of the Lao Front for Independence.
- In 1950 he was appointed headman of Ban Kathou Neua Village, Kathou Canton, Viangthong District, Saravane Province. At the end of the year he was appointed canton president.
- In 1951 he was transferred to the district level and was appointed to the district military command committee as well as served as president of the front for Viangthong District, Saravane Province.
- In 1954 he was assigned to be president of the southern area.
- In 1956 he was selected to be an alternate member of the party Central Committee.
- In 1958 he was assigned the responsibility of choosing representatives of the people for Saravane Province.
- In 1959 he was assigned to be party secretary of Saravane Province.
- From 1960 to 1971 he was assigned to be party secretary of the south as well as head of the office for the energy's rear area.
- In 1972 the congress of representatives from throughout the country elected him to the party Central Committee.

- After the nation was liberated in 1975, he was appointed minister for agriculture, forestry, irrigation, and agricultural cooperatives.

- At the end of 1983 he was appointed permanent president of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Society.

- During two periods of revolutionary activity and the national democratic revolution, and in defending the nation while building socialism, he dedicated his sweat, strength, and intelligence completely to his duties. He and his colleagues have been through a variety of difficulties; they united the multi-ethnic people to build and improve the grassroots of the revolution so that it steadily grew and became stronger, and they have steadfastly taken part in the collective victory of the revolution. In addition, he was one who took part in building international solidarity on the basis of the foreign policy of the party. Comrade Khamsouk Saignaseng died at 2100 hours on 29 July 1986 in a hospital in Moscow, the capital of the Soviet Union. He was 71.

8149/12781

CSO: 4206/139

LAOS

BRIEFS

GDR JOURNALISM AID—On the afternoon of 29 July the society of Lao correspondents signed an agreement concerning assistance from the GDR in training and creating mass communications cadres in 1986-87. Under this agreement the GDR will for 6 months provide instructors in our country to train a team which will teach journalism. This will begin soon. The training team will be the tenth to receive assistance from the GDR. Mr Chanthon Thiangthepvongsa, the vice president and secretary of the Society of Lao Correspondents, and Mr D. E. Tliksak, the special ambassador of the GDR to the LPDR, joined in signing the agreement. Mr Son Khamvanvongsa, chairman of the State Commission for News Agencies, Newspapers, Radio, and Television and president of the Society of Lao Correspondents, joined in the ceremony, together with a number of high-level cadres from related groups. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 30 Jul 86 p 1] 8149/12851

SARAVANE YOUTH UNION MEMBERSHIP—The improvement of the organization of the administrative committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union of Saravane Province is receiving attention now. The LPRYU is growing steadily. The membership of the LPRYU throughout the province has grown to 7,390. Of these, 3,196 are women. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12851

PAKSONG BANK ACTIVITY—In the first 6 months of 1986 the borrowing of money and deposits of money in savings accounts by the people of Paksong District, Champasak Province, proceeded as a broadly based drive. During this period they brought money accumulated within the family and deposited it in savings accounts which amounted to more than 2 million kip throughout the district; deposits of partnership money to create credit cooperatives amounted to 1 million kip. During this period the bank of the district loaned almost 36 million kip to agricultural cooperatives so that they would be strong and would assure a steadily improving standard of living for the people in the cooperatives of the district. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 4 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12851

XIENG KHOUANG BANK DEPOSITS—In the first 6 months of this year the people of three towns—Kham District, Pek District, and Khoun District of Xieng Khouang Province—brought more than 2,269,000 kip which they had accumulated and deposited in savings accounts. In addition they bought 615,000 kip of savings bonds. These savings deposits represent a more outstanding effort each year. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 1 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12851

VIENTIANE DISTRICT SECURITY--In the first 6 months of 1986, improvement of the forces defending the nation and the peace in Pasomsai Canton of Saisomboun District of Vientiane Province proceeded as a broadly based drive to bring strength to this activity among the people in their own localities. During this period they improved and trained the guerrilla units in military science and combat tactics on dozens of occasions. The guerrilla units patrolled their areas of responsibility completely. This was done so that the localities would have peace and to guarantee that the people could concentrate on production entirely. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12851

LUANG PRABANG BANK DEPOSITS--Since the beginning of 1986 the drive for savings deposits in Luang Prabang Province has been getting more and more attention from the masses. In only 6 months the people have deposited more than 2 million kip in savings at the bank. In addition, more than 1 million kip of savings bonds have been sold. [Excerpt] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 8 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12851

GEOLOGY COOPERATION WITH SRV--In order that the Lao-Vietnamese mutual-aid projects in geology gradually achieve results, especially the cooperative project to survey the Kali salt mine on the Vientiane plains, the committee of Lao and Vietnamese geologists held an official meeting, to consult and appraise the results of the first period of surveying at the Kali salt mine on the Vientiane plains, which lasted from 27 July to 4 August 1986. Both sides were unified concerning the results of the cooperation and joint operations. On the morning of 5 August the committee of specialists from both sides signed the report to certify the project surveying the Kali salt mine on the Vientiane plains officially. [Text] [Vientiane PASASON in Lao 9 Aug 86 pp 1, 4] 8149/12851

DIVISION SALES, PROFITS--In order to score achievements for the coming Fourth Party Congress, since early 1986 the supply store of Division "E" has been carrying out its duties enthusiastically and has been able to bring a good amount of income to the collective treasury of the unit as follows. Cadres and combatants in the supply trade section tried to take in merchandise from provincial trade and distributed 7 tons of merchandise to officers and enlisted men in various offices and units under the [words missing] twice. It earned a total of over 25.7 million kip from 3 sales and made a total of over 1.9 million kip profit. It transported and distributed assorted products 4 times totaling 20 tons. The restaurant section was also able to earn income from selling noodle soup, coffee and different kinds of food, and gave 87,545 kip to the collective treasury. [Excerpt] [Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 4 Jul 86 p 1] 9884/9190

SAYABOURY BORDER SECURITY--In the first 6 months of 1986 the guerrillas in Ban Pak Toung, Mo Canton, and in the cantons around Pak Lai District, Sayaboury Province, have inspected the area of their responsibility in their own localities with determination, and have achieved the following. They guarded the areas of responsibility both small and large 24 times, and the same for houses 142 times night and day, resulting in peace in the areas. Along with regular security work they also helped the regular forces to build 3 houses with 28 laborers. They also took part in road repairs for 8 km between localities to help facilitate travel and goods exchange in their own locality and others. [Text] [Vientiane KONGTHAP PASASON LAO in Lao 7 Aug 86 pp 1, 4] 9884/12851

VIENTIANE DISTRICT TAX COLLECTION--From the beginning of January until the end of June 1986 the tax cadres and state workers of Sisattanak District, Vientiane City, mobilized and inspected the 4,526 shops belonging to individuals and inspected goods at the border on 915 occasions. They checked boat dockings and travel gear on 500 occasions for a labor force of 1,500. They received petitions for private business permits and issued permits for 530 businesses. They collected 13,287,632 kip in taxes for the budget from rents, fees, and the agricultural tax. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 30 Jul 86 pp 1, 4] 8149/12781

VIENTIANE TRADE COOPERATIVES--Since the beginning of this year the trade service of Vientiane Province has been sending a number of cadres to improve the administration and plans of operation of 33 trading cooperatives throughout the province. This undertaking has meant that those running the trading cooperatives in every location have been much more effective during this period. With an initial capital investment of only 3 million kip they are now able to requisition and barter for more than 8,000 tons of rice and requisition 8 tons of cardamom and a great number of forest products. [Text] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 8 Aug 86 p 1] 8149/12781

TIMBER TRANSPORT--In the first 6 months of 1986 the cadres and workers of the timber transportation society of Vientiane City performed their duties in solidarity as a drive. During this period they were able to achieve the following real results: they transported 20,491.50 cubic meters of timber with a value of 25,054,998 kip. This exceeds the goal of the annual plan by 20 percent. They also fulfilled their obligation to the budget by providing almost 2 million kip [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 5 Aug 86 pp 1, 4] 8149/12781

COFFEE EXPORTS TO GDR--On 31 July 1986 the corporation for construction and international shipping affiliated with the production bases [communications, transportation, post, and construction] service of Vientiane City signed a contract for cooperation in shipping exports abroad with the Lao trading corporation (import-export) of the Ministry of Trade. The contract covers the shipping of 800 tons of coffee to the GDR under a cooperative trade agreement with the LPDR. Soon the corporation will ship 200 tons in the initial stage and will send successive shipments according to the schedule of the signed contract. Comrade Chanthavong Malaiphet, the administrator of the corporation for construction and international shipping, stressed the following about the corporation's shipping activities: "Shipping goods is a new activity for the corporation; in the past the corporation shipped some goods abroad under contracts with the owners of the goods. Until now the packaging equipment which the corporation has shipped in has been sufficient to meet the needs of the customers. For the last 6 months of the year the corporation has signed a contract with domestic and foreign corporations to ship 1,600 tons of various goods. As for construction projects in the 6 months from the end of the year until now, the corporation has completed two of the seven renovation and repair projects. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Laos 4 Aug 86 pp 1, 4] 8149/12781

ELECTRONIC ENTERPRISE PROFIT--In the afternoon of 25 July 1986 at the Vientiane Electro factory, which is affiliated with the industry and handicrafts service of Vientiane City, the committee in charge of this factory held a ceremony summarizing their short period of socialist struggle. In the past 6 months the factory has been able to achieve a total income of 12,042,329 kip and has exceeded its plan by 150.53 percent. It has fulfilled its obligation to the budget by providing 1,323,807 kip. [Excerpt] [Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 28 Jul 86 p 1] 8149/12781

CSO: 4206/139

PHILIPPINES

COMMENTARIES VIEW AQUINO VISIT TO U.S.

Radyo ng Bayan: Deeper Debt

HK250639 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0350 GMT 25 Sep 86

["Whispers and Shouts" commentary by Attorney Ric Valmonte]

[Text] In the midst of all this euphoria over what President Aquino is supposed to have obtained in loans from the United States, let us try to think clearly about what this really means. If we would only face facts, we would come to the conclusion that our country has now gone further into debt.

Let us look at the situation honestly. Has the president's trip done anything for the industrialization of our country? Will we be henceforth no longer the weak dependent of the United States? Will we become prosperous and able to compete economically and technologically with our Asian neighbors? Will we finally be able to eradicate poverty and insurgency?

Let us not delude ourselves on this score. All that Mrs Aquino's trip has accomplished is to put the country deeper into debt. We have been suffering all these years from the heavy burden of foreign debt; and now, just because Mrs Aquino was a personal success in the United States, we are foolish enough to believe that her obtaining additional loans will solve all our problems. Why are we Filipinos so blind? Can we not see that asking for more loans is not the way to get us out of the mess we are in?

Just look at the state of our sugar industry. We would be able to remedy that particular problem if the Americans raised their sugar quotas, but of course they are not going to do that. They are protecting their own farmers and will certainly not do us any favors by buying more sugar from us. Self-interest always rules relations between countries. We will never be able to rehabilitate our sugar industry until we learn to solve our own problems. We should stop expecting assistance from outside. We should not go on begging for new loans from the Americans and other foreigners.

Instead of feeling so jubilant about all these foreign loans, we should protest the fact that our officials continue to dig deeper pits into which to plunge the country. We will never prosper so long as we continue to be

mendicants. President Aquino's trip to the United States was a mere junket. Though it proved her popularity abroad, it has done little else. What it mainly succeeded in doing was to keep our country the weak and dependent tool of the capitalists. It is time we woke up and changed this sorry situation.

'Madison Avenue Hoopla'

HK250757 Manila THE MANILA EVENING POST in English 23 Sep 86 p 4

[Editorial: "The Pressure Is On"]

[Text] Mrs. Corazon Aquino is not even home yet, her emotional speech is still sending off reverberations in the United States, but already pressure is being applied by American officials so that the U.S. military facilities remain in the Philippines. Senate majority leader Robert Dole has asked President Reagan to raise American concerns over Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base issue with Mrs. Aquino.

After the congressional applause subsided and the perfunctory praise faded, what we have left is a bagful of promises. It's an interesting carrot and stick tactic. Note that immediately after Mrs. Aquino "received a standing ovation before a joint session of Congress" and the House of Representatives approved a \$200 million additional "aid" to the Philippines, the U.S. Senate merely referred the bill to the appropriate committee. Whatever promises have been made would now have to go through the congressional mill. ●

Meantime, the so-called aid being transmitted is really due us and was withheld only from the past administration. Despite the extravagant Madison Ave. hoopla orchestrated by an American public relations firm hired for the purpose, the bottom line is still zero.

But the American senator cannot be denied his comments about the bases issue. He finds it "disturbing" that the Constitutional Commission is discussing the bases issue and has approved a provision declaring the Philippines "nuclear-free." Sen. Dole, the most powerful U.S. senator because of his position, has actually raised what the U.S. Government has had in mind all along, that the Philippine Government, through Mrs. Aquino, should be prepared "to discuss this issue directly and in detail with us now, too."

The entourage of Mrs. Aquino should read closely what Sen. Dole is saying. What he really wants is for the Philippine Government and even the independent Con Com to stop discussing the bases issue until 1988. As the Senate majority leader, a partymate of President Reagan, and a prospective presidential candidate in 1988, Sen. Dole is not talking on his own but for the entire Republican Party.

That is the price of American "aid."

VERITAS: Ties Must Be Duo Effort

HK251349 Quezon City VERITAS in English 18-24 Sep 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Cory in Washington--America Must Listen"]

[Text] Seven months into her presidency, Corazon C. Aquino cannot be expected to stand FilAmerican relations on its dual head. She cannot at this point reinvent the instruments that have for so long governed Philippine foreign policy vis a vis its major international partner. Given the legacy of Marcos profligacy and corruption, she cannot cut cleanly the strings of dependency.

Doing the above involves more than one act or decision. It cannot be the work of one individual. The unravelling of the knotted strands of special relations must be a collective effort and must result from the mutual understanding of new goals and objectives, not only of government officials but of the people they represent.

But Cory Aquino can and must initiate the process of reassessment and reappraisal, of reexamining the premises that govern our relations with the most powerful nation in the world. She can help in forcing the first step, the recasting of a mind set that has been frozen in the past; the changing of attitudes which have further perpetuated the inequalities of the two nations.

She can deliver the message that the conduct of the two countries' mutual affairs can no longer simply proceed from the perspectives of the past. She must dramatize the difference in her leadership: She is a popular president who governs by the will of the people. She did not seek the presidency for her own personal and political ends. She has a free hand so to speak because it is not stayed by self-interest. In short, she does not need the prop of American support to legitimize her authority. Nor does she have a personal design or scheme for the use of such support.

Cory must be determined to work out a transition from old to new by setting a new tone and signalling a new style in her dealings with Americans. This she can do even if her administration carries over so much of the dead weight of historical legacy, as well as the more recent costs of American support for her predecessor. This can be done despite the inherited baggage that weighs down her mission: economic bankruptcy and international debt.

First, on the symbolic level. Hers is a presidency of national recovery. Her words, her manner, her personality projects the implications of that recovery: a new assertiveness, a refreshing confidence that she is right in pressing the point: Filipinos must set their own national agenda. If she does not falter in her resolve, Americans have no choice but to sit up and listen.

It may be useful to remind her hosts that the U.S. role in propping up the Marcoses up to the last hour is seen now by the majority of Filipinos as

crucial in abetting the destruction of democratic institutions and the down-spin of the national economy. Thus, if America is sincere about its commitment to the building of Philippine democracy then it must be clear that this involves support for Cory's administration without the strings that bind her options.

This message should keynote the initial encounter in Washington. And it should be followed up with the appeal for understanding the dilemmas of democratization which she now faces. The demands of freedom and equality are not so easily or simply prioritized. There are no simple solutions, no set formulations, no autopilot for her ship of state.

If Americans think they know better, they are simply naive. It is disturbing to hear now so many shapers of American public opinion mouthing school-book prescriptions for the problems of the Philippines. It signals once again the classic weakness that explains so many of the disasters in America's handling of its foreign policy, the tendency to impose its choice, its point of view on the problems involving foreign peoples and their societies.

If Americans are to play a positive role in the recovery of the Philippines, they must now listen to Cory Aquino with sensitivity and respect. They must put down their blinders and put on the "hearing aid" for international communication.

For her part, Cory should take care that her message carries with it the plurality of options that the Filipinos are still struggling to clarify for themselves.

Ministers Assess Visit in Kapihan

Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Sep 86 p 5

["Political Tidbits" column by Belinda Olivares-Cunanan: "Kapihan Assesses Cory's U.S. Visit"]

[Text] After the initial euphoria surrounding the President's official US visit, what exactly did the country gain by it? The Kapihan sa Maynila at the Manila Hotel yesterday assessed the "reality against the promises" of the President's visit and concluded that there were tremendous quantifiable gains. Not just in dollars and cents, but in the perception projected here and abroad that, as Natural Resources Minister Ernie Maceda put it, "Cory Aquino is President and that she is in control in the Philippines."

Agriculture Minister Ramon Mitra, a member of the official party to the US, said that contrary to allegations that it was "very cold" to the Philippine President, the Reagan government was quite warm to her. He noted that the scheduled meeting with the Reagan cabinet could not push through because the US president met with Cory far longer than originally scheduled. He pointed out that the "first team" of the Reagan government was on hand to receive Cory and attended the White House luncheon. He also explained that "Nancy Reagan wasn't around because Ms. Aquino as Head of State was received by her American counterpart, not by his First Lady."

Mitra, responding to criticism of Oppositionist former Davao MP Manuel "Nonoy" Garcia that US Vice President Bush had snubbed Cory Aquino's Capitol Hill appearance, said Bush broke protocol--something unprecedented--by calling on the President at her Washington Hotel.

Nonoy Garcia asserted that whoever thought of initiating the House of Representatives resolution providing \$200 million in extra aid actually did Cory Aquino and the Philippines a disservice, as the six-vote margin of approval (203 Representatives in favor vs. 197 against) showed little support for Cory on Capitol Hill. In addition, he pointed out, this resolution has little chance for passage in the US Senate, which could be embarrassing for the Philippines.

Agrarian Minister Heherson Alvarez, who was in exile in the US for over 12 years, said such criticism reveals little knowledge of "the complexities of Capitol Hill." He said that the small margin was not an indication of disapproval of Cory but "merely of the procedure in which the resolution was presented."

Alvarez explained that the Gramm-Rudman Law in the US attempts to bring down the ceiling of indebtedness of the US government in order that its demands for interest payments do not tax the resources allocated to the private sector--which happens if the US Treasury does not have enough funds for its indebtedness. Thus, this resolution allocating new appropriations to a foreign country really strains that ceiling; but despite this, Alvarez said, the resolution passed, indicating the popularity of Cory on Capitol Hill. The Congressmen had approved this aid resolution, but their problem is from which items in the budget the amount would be culled.

Monching Mitra expressed some pessimism that this \$200 million resolution would pass the Senate, but Minister Maceda said that with heavyweights such as Senators Richard Lugar, Jessie Helms and Robert Byrd, and "Reagan's boys" all pushing for its passage in the Senate, "even Majority Leader Robert Dole can't do anything about it."

Minister Joe Concepcion, another member of the official party, also pointed out that this Congress resolution was "a spontaneous thing we did not expect," and that it came because, as House Speaker Tip O'Neill noted, Cory's famed speech was "the first address by a foreign Chief Executive that touched the hearts of the US Congress."

COA Chairman Tito Guingona, who heads the UN Auditing Board, pointed out that one important development of Cory's visit is the harnessing of financial support of an estimated 2 million Filipinos in the US. A project expected to be in place within three months is a \$2 billion fund from the Fil-American community. Presently being put together by a group led by Ford executive Lilia Calderon-Clemente, the fund will be spent on development projects in the Philippines.

Guingona also noted that \$150 million in "fresh money" will come from some \$505 million originally approved by the US for the Marcos regime, but "which

had been held in the pipeline" because of American distrust for the deposed dictatorship.

He also pointed out that negotiations of the nuclear plant group with the Westinghouse people in Washington have also benefitted from the reservoir of goodwill generated by Cory.

PCCI acting President Jose Luis Yulo noted that with the tremendous momentum in the US started by Cory, it is up to the Filipino businessmen to seize the new business opportunities and lowered tariffs there. Cautioning against "expecting miracles" Yulo stressed that while the big multinational firms are still waiting and watching, the small and medium-scale American industries have indicated a readiness to come here right away.

Minister Concepcion said that an inter-agency government committee has been created by the President to study ways of maximizing opportunities for Philippine businessmen in the US, and that with cheaper interest rates and better production there is no reason why they should not succeed.

Presentation Seen Measure of Success

Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 25 Sep 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Welcome Home, Cory"]

[Text] This week's TIME has President Aquino on its cover with a head saying: "Cory Conquers." In the cover story, however, it says, "...it is unlikely she will come from her nine-day tour this week with much more than a handshake and a smile."

President Reagan has echoed State Secretary George Shultz's statement about being "bullish on the Philippines." Bull has two meanings. It can mean "foolish, empty, insincere talk" or "a rise in the price as in the stock market." Some quarters have already pointed out that \$150 million in Economic Support Funds; \$50 million in Military Assistance Package; and \$10 million in medical assistance from a private-non-governmental group, are part of the Bases Agreement. So President Aquino may have gotten only what was due.

We, however, consider President Aquino's official visit to the United States an outstanding success. By success, we mean that President Aquino delivered the Philippine message, not only to the United States President and Congress, but to the United Nations. Her visit is historical on that score.

We should stop measuring the success of official or state visits by how much money the President brings home. More important is how the President presented the issues abroad.

The highlight of her visit was when she made the LABAN sign before the US Congress. The LABAN sign began in the Batasan elections of 1978. Her husband, Ninoy, organized a group of twenty-one that formed the umbrella

organization that was LABAN. Who would have imagined that sign that began in the streets of Manila would eight years later be hailed in the US Congress.

There is a very inspiring story about the last democratic elections that Spain had before its Civil War. A hungry man in rags was lining up to cast his vote. He was approached by a person who offered him quite a sum of money for his vote. The man politely refused the bribe saying, "In my hunger, I still make the decisions."

Columnist Questions Impact of Visit

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 25 Sep 86 pp 4, 14

[Commentary by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Our People's Expectation"]

[Text]

CLOSE on the heels of President Aquino's apparent personal triumph in the United States, there are disturbing reports filtering in that the emotional impact she made on the American officialdom and people, may not amount for much in terms of returns for her efforts. True, she did not go there to beg, or to seek sympathy for the difficulties we are currently experiencing. But still, our people expected deeper understanding from the US government, expressed succinctly in more "material" terms.

This kind of "understanding" is ably demonstrated by the US House of Representatives, which immediately passed a supplementary budget bill, providing an additional \$200 million of assistance to our country. Passing through the House with a reported six votes majority only, it was nevertheless a touching expression of concern and support for this nation's plight. Such a demonstration of goodwill is, to our mind, the highest point of the President's trip.

But yet, just as it was the highest point of her visit, so may it also be the basis even-

tually of determining the least tangible results of her venture. For even at this moment, there are already dissenting sounds from the ranks of the American legislators that the same bill which passed the House like a lightning flash, may not even reach first base in the Senate, which still has to approve it before it goes to the White House for the presidential imprimatur.

So, as it is, the same "article" that sweetened President Aquino's appearance before the US Congress may also be the same one that will give the visit its sour note. But this, however, may not become a reality until weeks from now, when the American Senate will either start deliberating on the bill, or not at all. Then we will know how far we should consider the President's trip as a real success.

Nevertheless, the way President Aquino conducted herself in that land, which many of our brethren consider as of "milk and honey," is something that should do us proud. When she left the country last week, she was the object of much aside re-

marks, such as that she was going there to do a begging tour. She did no such thing. Instead, she was able to project surprisingly an image which made her now one of the world's leaders of democracy to watch and reckon with, specially among the Third World countries.

Her speech before the United Nations the other day sort of annointed her as a world leader of consequence. That she has already totally and completely shed off her image as an innocent housewife thrown into the maelstrom of politics by accident of circumstance, she ably proved in the last few days. She has now come on her own, matured as it were, as a true leader of her people. It was indeed, a long way she has reached in such a short time of seven months, for the housewife and widow of Ninoy Aquino.

When we saw her stand before the wizened men of the US Congress, or before the dignified array of world diplomats in the United Nations, or before the gathering of seasoned businessmen in New York whose financial powers extending almost through the

four corners of the world, can make or unmake the economy of nations, we felt a deep sense of pride for her and for our country. For here is a woman, the first to emerge from Southeast Asia, who has suddenly metamorphosed, by her own dogged will, from a faltering housewife into an eloquent speaker, seeking recognition and support for the "cheapest" revolution ever staged by any country in the world in behalf of democracy.

By her eloquent presentation of our national experience many months ago, before the American people, including the problems we are facing to sustain the momentum of freedom gained from such a peaceful revolution, we can say that the next move is now America's. What-

ever will be the outcome of President Aquino's visit, whatever assistance may be extended to this country as a result, in addition to the \$20 million dollars in material aid (such as medicine for the military) which has started to arrive, we will consider as part of the measure of her success.

The President is expected to arrive today back from that trip. From here on, our people will be looking at her from a different angle. No longer will it be from the angle they have watched her since the day in February when she came into power. This time, her people will be looking at her with more respect and more confidence, as only a person accepted as a true leader of her country, is entitled to.

Cebu Column Upbeat

Cebu City VISAYAN HERALD in English 26 Sep 86 pp 4, 8

[Commentary by Edgar D. Recla in "Straight Stuff" column: "Filipinos Are Proud of Cory"]

[Text] The Filipino nation is proud of its first lady President; and wholeheartedly welcomed yesterday her arrival from a week-long triumphant working visit to the land founded and made strong by those adventurous Mayflower pilgrims seeking a place of their own and practice their brand of religion and political belief without fear of monarchical persecution.

When a head-of-state's visit to that most powerful of nations suddenly turns like a popular electoral campaign complete with multitudes of admiring welcomers lining the streets and places she goes, all anxious to hear her speak, and punctuated by no less than standing ovation speeches of both the joint session of the US Congress and the United Nations General Assembly--no one, in his right mind, would grade the performance as just outstanding but excellent.

With the tremendous international goodwill she has earned for her leadership and people, and the maintained popularity at home, let's hope she can now have the courage to restructure her government and policies to what she have had promised the people during the February snap electoral campaign.

President Cory's US visit, a success beyond expectations, made her a leader of international caliber. Underrated as she was before, the sudden merging of national and international popularity in the person of the once unknown housewife of a martyred politician, has increased tenfold her image and capability to rule over and above such men as Defense Minister Enrile, Vice President Laurel, and other secretly ambitioning and praying for chance to replace her.

Rarely can we find a lady and a president of one of the poorest and beggar of nations captivate the hearts and imaginations of the citizenry of its chief creditor nation. Above all, lionized and listened to with favorable results by international political czars not used to listening but commanding third rate nations' leaderships.

By her recent conquest, our lady President has hit two birds in one stone. First, it earned for her a considerable segment of American population and leadership sympathetic to her cause and ready, at her appeal, to pressure that nation's government if it does do something inimical to her pronounced economic and political recovery program.

And most important, it gives her the go-signal to reorganize her government by purging it out of baggages--saboteurs, destabilizers and pretenders to the Presidency--whose only claim to leadership, is not their popularity with the people they want to govern, but their professed subservience and expectation of American vested interests' support.

The only difference between Enrile and the demonstrating Marcos abandonados is that the Defense Minister sees red in every Cabinet member that he can't see eye-to-eye, while the abandonados brand the President herself as communist (the shouting of "Cory communist!" during their Sept. 21 rally).

Why the minus-factor? Some would say, it can be attributed to the fact that while the abandonados are out of government, Enrile still is a functionary supposedly under the control and supervision and by the grace of the lady tagged as communist.

One can logically conclude that once out of government and actively seeking his not-so-secret Presidential ambition against his former boss, the man will mouth the abandonados stand.

Or if, by a long-shot, the acting President is eased out while still serving her term--the abandonados might as well sing "Happy days are here again."

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CSO: 4200/25

PHILIPPINES

DAILY EXPRESS VIEWS U.S. SENATE REVERSAL ON AID

HK061409 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Oct 86 pp 1, 6

[By Byani S. Cruz]

[Text] Approval by the U.S. Senate of an additional \$200 million aid for the country after rejecting it twice is subject to various implications.

The following questions are being asked: What does this "photo-finish" approval really mean, coming as it did during the last days of the session for 1986? What are the Americans really trying to do? Or is this a subtle way of conveying a message to the Aquino government and Filipino people?

We all know that the U.S. Congress, particularly the Senate, is made up of highly disciplined men who are not prone to making big (\$200 million worth) decisions within 24 hours. Whatever they do, we have to assume that the senators deliberated thoroughly beforehand.

When the House of Representatives passed the resolution for the additional aid hours after listening to President Aquino's "very touching" speech before the joint session of the U.S. Congress, it could then be reasonably concluded the U.S. legislators were so touched by the President's speech that they were swayed by their emotions. After all, even the Americans are human.

However, the Senate, unswayed by emotions, voted against the resolution last Monday (51-43), much to the disappointment of the Aquino government, the Filipinos in general, and the pro-Filipino Americans in Congress.

The explanation given was that the \$200 million would have been taken from allocations for other U.S. allies who also need urgent support. They said that this is not proper.

For a while there were hopes that the \$200 million aid package could be salvaged, but these were dashed completely when the Senate again voted against the resolution (57-41) three days later.

However, within 24 hours, the same Senate reversed itself and approved the aid package by a large majority (82-14).

It will be noted that during the first two violations [as published] there wasn't much difference in the figures which means that those who voted for or against last Monday, except for a few, voted the same way three days later.

For so many "disciplined" minds to change completely within 24 hours is quite "unusual," to say the least.

The most logical conclusions that can be taken on the U.S. Senate's action are that it was:

-- A signal of all-out support of the Aquino government, its policies, plans and programs.

-- A means of protecting substantial American interests in the country, particularly the military bases.

/12624

CSO: 4200/31

PHILIPPINES

FINANCE MINISTER HITS FOREIGN BANKS', GOVERNMENTS' RESPONSE

HK031251 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 86 p 25

[Text] Finance Minister Jaime V. Ongpin lashed out strongly at foreign banks and government leaders for ignoring problems of debt-ridden developing countries.

In a sharp turnaround from his formerly conservative stance, Ongpin told the annual joint meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund that the response of banks and government leaders are "at best, minimal and at worst, insensitive" to the needs of heavily indebted countries.

Analysts told BUSINESS DAY that Ongpin could still be smarting from the snub the Philippines got from the U.S. Senate over an additional \$200 million appropriation for the crisis-ridden Philippine economy.

Since he became the finance minister, Ongpin has often taken a conservative posture with regard the manner the country's \$26.5-billion debt inherited from the previous administration was handled.

He is a staunch supporter of the ultra-conservative Central Bank Governor Jose B. Fernandez Jr. and frowns upon pronouncements made by the more progressive Economic Planning Minister Solita C. Monsod.

Ongpin said commercial bank lending has continued to decline substantially and bankers have refused to compromise on payments.

He pointed out that many poor countries have had to pay back intergovernmental lending bodies more than they could borrow.

Without mentioning the U.S. by name, Ongpin noted "reluctance" to start the process of increasing the money available to the Bank and the Fund. U.S. opposition has delayed both efforts.

He also expressed disappointment over increasing protectionism and "heavy subsidies for agriculture on the European and American continents."

Ongpin painted a bleak picture of debtor countries' prospects.

"A renewed buildup in arrears is now forecast and a steep rise in the amounts of debt to be rescheduled is anticipated," he added.

/12624

CSO: 4200/31

PHILIPPINES

TRADE MINISTER CRITICIZES EXPORTERS' 'COMPLACENT ATTITUDE'

HK031412 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 86 pp 3, 12

[Text] Trade and Industry Minister Jose S. Concepcion Jr. yesterday said the world market offers "tremendous opportunities" for Philippine exports, but local exporters continue to fail to take advantage of these opportunities.

Speaking before the Confederation of Philippine Exporters, Inc. (COPE), Concepcion chided exporters for what he called their "complacent attitude" that has deterred them from maximizing the benefits of the worldwide goodwill the Philippines has earned after the peaceful February revolution.

Instead, he said exporters and businessmen have unnecessarily immersed themselves in political and other problems, such as peace and order and labor, that they have forgotten about research to improve their performance in the world market.

At the same time, he said the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) is currently working on measures to help exporters and local business in general not only to expand exports but also to create an environment more favorable to business operations.

Among the measures which the ministry is studying are the establishment of more infrastructure and port facilities to improve transportation and lower transport rates; the dismantling of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone [PLDT] Co.'s monopoly in communications by allowing private franchising of communications companies, particularly in the provinces; the elimination of power subsidies for residential consumers; and the creation of better employee-employer relations in the various industries.

"The U.S. (which remains the Philippines's largest market for exports) is willing to help us by diverting from some of their markets, but Philippine industry does not want to take advantage. Let's forget about aid (from the U.S.), let's forget about (Defense Minister Juan Ponce) Enrile (and the peace and order problem). Instead, let's do market research, let's do our homework, because even now there's a tremendous market out there," concepcion said.

He said the MTI is thinking of proposing to the government the revival of the railway system to make the transport of goods within the country cheaper and more efficient.

He also cited the need to install at least 12 new ports which will be operated by private companies instead of the government to help exporters beat the high cost of freight.

Likewise, he said the government "can no longer defend" the PLDT's monopoly, but instead should allow franchising of communications to private firms to create a more efficient communications system.

He justified the revival of the railway system by saying that it is the cheapest mode of transportation. He said this project will be one of the major proposals that the government would discuss with the Japanese government for possible assistance when an official government mission visits Japan soon.

On the other hand, he said the government would work for a possible assistance from the World Bank for the proposed project of franchising private firms in the communications industry.

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PHILIPPINES

PRINCIPAL EXPORT RECEIPTS DROP 1.64 PERCENT

HK021123 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 2 Oct 86 p 2

["Economic Indicator" column: "Principal Export Receipts Down"]

[Text] Principal exports of the country earned \$1,130.21 million during the first seven months of 1986, down 1.64 percent or \$18.89 million compared with the \$1,149.10 million foreign exchange earnings registered during the same period last year, latest data gathered from the central Bank showed.

Total earnings of these top exports accounted for 41.59 percent of the \$2,717.58 million total shipments reported at end-July 1986.

Despite lower earnings, semiconductor devices maintained its position as the largest foreign exchange earner, accounting for 25.34 percent of total earnings. It grossed \$286.43 million during the January-July period, a decrease of 32.87 percent from \$426.69 million earned during the first seven months of 1985. The decline was due to the 31.98 percent drop in total volume of shipments at 1,678 metric tons (MT) this year from 2,467 MT last year.

Despite the slump in world market prices exports of crude and refined oil registered a 5.72 percent growth, from last year's \$202.01 million to \$213.56 million. Volume of shipments rose by a significant 134 percent from 296,854 MT last year to 694,644 MT.

Meanwhile, exports of coffee beans (not roasted) registered the biggest hike of 108.66 percent from \$41.05 million in 1985 to \$85.66 million. During the period in review, shipment of this product was posted at 29,382 metric tons, 64.73 percent bigger than last year's 17,837 MT. This product ranked fifth in terms of export earnings this year.

Leading Exports
January to July, 1985 & 1986
 (Volume in Metric Tons: FOB Value in Thousand US Dollars)

	1986		1985	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
Semiconductor devices	1,678	286,428	2,467	426,685
Coconut oil (crude & refined)	694,644	213,562	296,854	202,007
Electric microcircuits (1)	253,835	130,647	159,937	106,944
Copper metal	70,641	96,686	76,794	98,256
Coffee, raw not roasted	29,382	85,662	17,837	41,054
Bananas	525,587	78,816	481,158	69,608
Gold (2)	225,139	73,378	175,443	53,469
Copper concentrates	212,452	56,100	232,111	57,468
Consigned children's & infant wear (1)	34,816	55,749	34,799	57,359
Outer garments & other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized (1)	23,906	53,177	15,087	36,248
Total		1,130,205		1,149,098

(1) Volume in thousand numbers

(2) Volume in troy ounces

Source: Central Bank

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PHILIPPINES

MEDIUM TERM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS TO CONTINUE DETERIORATING

HK031332 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 86 p 2

[By Reporter Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The country's balance of payments (BOP) position will continue to deteriorate in the medium term as a result of the continued net outflow of capital and the poor export performance.

Increasing reliance on new money and rescheduling of debts will become necessary in order to fill up the projected gap in the BOP.

Without rescheduling and new money, the BOP gap will increase from a projected \$0.8 billion this year to about \$1.9 billion by 1989 and to as much as \$2.7 billion by 1992.

The Philippines will have to raise new money and reschedule debt repayments to fill this gap. New money and rescheduling of debts will grow increasingly, starting at \$2 billion for this year to a high of \$3.5 billion in 1992.

With new money and debt rescheduling in place, the overall BOP will show a surplus for the period of about \$1.2 billion for this year. This is estimated to decline to \$0.6 billion in 1989 and the increase slightly to \$0.8 billion in 1992.

These are the estimates of the Central Bank [CB] made available to BUSINESS DAY that form part of the data supporting the country's medium-term development plan formulated by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

The development plan was discussed yesterday in a "public hearing" from which the press was barred. The whole affair was attended by only "a chosen few who were invited."

Sources at the CB said that perhaps because of the delicate nature of the subject, only those perceived by the hosts "as agreeable" were invited. The meeting was chaired by deputy finance minister Victor C. Macalincag.

One of the principal factors that is expected to continue to adversely affect the country's BOP over the plan period, or from 1987 to 1992, is the continued net outflow of capital, particularly of medium- and long-term loans.

Estimates made by the CB showed that inflow of medium- and long-term capital during the plan period will remain substantially lower than the actual outflow of capital.

For this year, the medium and long-term loans account will post a net outflow of Pl billion from an inflow of \$0.9 billion and an outflow of \$1.9 billion.

The net position of the account however will increasingly deteriorate starting next year as inflows start to dwindle while outflows continue to increase. The negative position of this account will reach \$2.2 billion by the end of 1992 as projected inflow will amount to only \$0.2 billion while outflow will grow to about \$2.4 billion.

In the case of the trade balance, the country is projected to be in deficit for the duration of the plan period with the trade balance deteriorating from a negative \$0.6 billion this year to a negative \$1.4 billion by 1992.

Exports are projected to rise by an average of 10 percent over the plan period while imports will grow at an average of 10.7 percent annually. The current account deficit will average about 2 percent of the gross national product (BNP) annually during the period.

These gloomy projections made by monetary authorities support the concern of some sectors that unless a more prudent debt management policy is adopted over the medium term, the country will continue to experience chronic BOP difficulties despite successive standby arrangements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) purportedly to correct this problem.

Under the proposed medium-term development plan, the government has drawn up a number of strategies to try to correct these problems affecting the BOP.

Among others, the government will pursue a growth-oriented debt management policy and strategy.

This means that the government will first set a desired growth rate target for the year and work backward to determine estimates for debt servicing that the country can afford to pay.

At the same time, the government would enter into financing arrangements that would ensure the just sharing and the effective reduction of the debt burden.

These shall include multiyear restructuring (including reduction in interests) and negotiating for better terms as well as compromise arrangements, the conversion of debt to equity and the disengagement from certain foreign debts proven to have been obtained under fraudulent or questionable circumstances.

The government will also try to rely more on assistance in the form of grants and concessional official loans. These external financing will be used for BOP support, structural reforms and high priority development projects.

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PHILIPPINES

SEC FIGURES INDICATE FEWER COMPANY SHUTDOWNS

HK061518 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Oct 86 p 2

["Economic Indicator" column: "Fewer Companies Close Shop"]

[Text] There were fewer domestic stock corporations and partnerships that disbanded in the first seven months of the year compared to the same period in 1985, according to records of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The SEC listed a total of 83 firms that closed shop in January to July, nine less than the 92 registered in 1985.

Total capital withdrawn likewise dropped 82 percent from P1,398.54 million last year to P251.68 million this year.

Of the total number of firms that were dissolved, 48 were domestic stock corporations, accounting for a capitalization takeout of P245.99 million. This, however, marked a decrease of 82.36 percent from P1,394.37 million last year.

On the other hand, there were 35 partnerships dissolved in the seven-month period this year, five firms more than last year's record. The amount of capital taken out was also bigger. From P4.17 million last year, capital taken out with the dissolution of the partnerships jumped 36.45 percent to P5.69 million.

Dissolution of Existing Domestic Stock Corporations & Partnerships

January 1985 to July 1986
(Amount in thousand pesos)

	Total		Domestic Stock Corporations		Partnerships	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1985						
January	18	26,934	10	25,987	8	947
February	10	2,864	8	2,760	2	104
March	15	72,331	8	71,580	7	751
April	15	2,929	12	2,059	3	870
May	10	2,469	9	2,049	1	10
June	15	1,003,919	8	1,003,034	7	885
July	9	287,092	7	286,492	2	600
August	19	7,284	13	7,069	6	215
September	14	10,440	10	10,116	4	324
October	13	74,044	10	73,826	3	218
November	10	15,306	7	14,743	3	563
December	14	234,413	11	234,138	3	275
1986						
January	13	5,124	5	3,499	8	1,625
February	6	70,855	5	70,795	1	60
March	15	132,793	9	132,048	6	745
April	7	22,388	4	21,950	3	438
May	11	7,138	5	5,949	6	1,189
June	17	6,700	11	5,551	6	1,149
July	14	6,680	9	6,200	5	480

Source: Securities and Exchange Commission

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PHILIPPINES

COCONUT PRODUCTS EXPORT EARNINGS UP 7.5 PERCENT

HK061456 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] Total foreign exchange earned during the first eight months of the year from exports of coconut products went up 7.5 percent to \$382.78 million from \$356.2 million in the same period in 1985 as total volume more than doubled.

Latest figures made available by the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP) showed that the aggregate volume shipped out during the period reached 1.5 million metric tons (in copra terms), 121.6 percent higher than last year's 678,655 metric tons.

Coconut oil was still the biggest earner of foreign exchange for the industry. About \$240.12 million or 63 percent of the total earnings for the period came from exports of coconut oil. Coconut oil export earnings increased 5.4 percent from last year's \$227.75 million.

Total coconut oil shipped out during the period went up 133.2 percent to 802,879 metric tons from the previous year's 344,330 metric tons. However, the huge increase in volume did not result in a corresponding hike in earnings as average prices fell 54.8 percent from \$661.43 per metric ton last year to \$299.07 per metric ton.

Based on the available figures, UCAP projects that total coconut oil exports for the whole of 1986 will reach 1.16 million metric tons worth \$324.401 million.

According to the association, this is a few thousand metric tons shy of this year's target of 1.202 million metric tons and about \$20 million short of the projected \$345.2 million income.

Copra meal was the biggest gainer among all coconut products. During the period, total volume went up 135.5 percent from last year's 220,812 metric tons to 520,012 metric tons. Total dollars earned increased 172.5 percent to \$45.23 million from \$16.6 million as the average price rose 15.7 percent from \$75.16 to \$86.97 per metric ton.

Desiccated coconut, which used to be the second biggest earner, suffered a 40.3 percent decline in earnings from \$49.35 million to \$29.47 million. The average price went down from \$1,323.10 per metric ton last year to \$665.37 per metric ton.

This resulted in lower dollar earnings despite the 18.8 percent increase in total volume to 44,291 metric tons from 37,297 metric tons.

Copra, whose exports were banned until early this year, contributed \$7.447 million to total dollar earnings. Although export volume and average prices are picking up, the industry feels the product is not yet performing satisfactorily.

According to UCAP, export contracts for copra are only up to October. The association projects that by the end of this month, total shipments would amount to only 89,819 metric tons worth \$11.136 million.

Depressed prices for both copra and coconut oil are the industry's major problems. Oversupply and weakened demands in the world market caused the drop in prices, UCAP said.

Failure to dispose of most of last year's production, amounting to 538,000 metric tons of copra, due to a regulatory oversight, added significantly to this year's production. As a result, prices in both the domestic and world markets plunged to their lowest levels.

A paper prepared by UCAP indicated that the fast decline in prices of coconut oil was the result of reports that the Philippines has a huge surplus that should be disposed of immediately to cut money and storage costs.

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PHILIPPINES

NDF LAWYER ON STATUS OF PEACE TALKS

HK031323 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 Oct 86 p 5

["Software" column by Sylvia L. Mayuga: "A Test for All of Us"]

[Text] Romeo Capulong, one of the two lawyers for the NDF [National Democratic Front] panel, is a surprisingly calm man, faced as he is by the frustrating turn of events with Rodolfo Salas' capture at the eve of the much-awaited ceasefire between NPA and AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines].

Contrary to the impression created by the immediate headlines post-capture about the "collapse" of peace talks, Capulong chooses to emphasize the main reason talks were initiated in the first place -- "the positive attitude of both sides" and the "genuine interest in peace."

He admits that Salas' arrest has made it more difficult to continue at the pace the NDF had hoped for after the initial job of laying guidelines had been laid but reiterates that Salas' release shall not [preceding word in italics] be made a condition for the resumption of talks.

What he is battling for strongly is the release of Jose Concepcion as one of the security forces attached to Ocampo and Zumel covered, as he has already told other reporters, by the safe conduct passes of the two NDF negotiators with immunity from surveillance, molestation, harassment, apprehension and arrest.

The other point Capulong is battling for is that the military take immediate cognizance of Salas' medical needs -- post-operation complications could prove fatal, attests his doctor -- and keep Salas only under hospital conditions.

These two recommendations are obviously coming from a man well-chosen by the NDF panel to translate their intentions into reasonable bargaining points, with a deep sense of humanity thrown into the bargain. Beyond the distressing tendency of deadline reporting towards distorting sensationalism, Capulong merely smiles off the worry expressed by his old fellow-lawyer friends that speaking for the NDF when certain of the media make them sound so strident and unreasonable is bound to burn Capulong out careerwise.

"You have to balance all things," he says. "Every Filipino now has the opportunity to contribute to the peace process. Yes, I followed my heart on this one. There are always people who will have to take risks like this. I am almost at the tail-end of my loop of life. Lolo na ako, e. [I am already a grandfather.] I just want to help.

"I have no personal agenda in doing this, no personal ambitions and I do recognize na tao lang ang NDF [the NDF are only human]. Some of them have ambitions, too. But I believe that this is the most difficult stage, laying the groundwork for a mutual trust, relieving the revolutionary party of constraints. Once these matters are hardened, the talks will take off. The substantive phase will be smoother than this difficult beginning.

"Even Tanada has said that this stage is the most difficult. There are very strong pressures on Cory to abandon the peace talks but she should not. If it takes a year, let's give it a chance."

With a dove like this for a lawyer, we can continue to hope.

But hoping is tantamount only to wishful thinking if everyone does not do his job by these peace talks which are an entire nation's business.

Reporters should remember this as they bat out their story angles, leads and headlines that condition the minds of both sides.

Businessmen should remember this whenever they are tempted to unthinkingly add fuel to anti-communist hysteria out of sheer irritation at how slowly we are making progress.

Cause-oriented groups should remember this when they made demands for immediate this or that from an Aquino government busy calibrating recognizable hostile forces to an equable state necessary for meaningful dialog.

Public suspicion is strong in agreeing with Joker Arroyo's assessment that the time of Salas' arrest is not an accident. While the military is understandably proud of itself, they must still contend with negative civilian opinion on their attitude to the peace talks. More than all the other sectors of society, they walk on a delicate tightrope as a whole country groans for peace. Suspicion centers on clear symptoms that the military leadership has plainly not internalized President Cory's attitude towards the rebels.

This internalization, finally, seems the key to any future success for the peace talks. The Chinese, in their very old Book of Changes, have a saying: "A deep understanding that knows how to pardon creates such a strong moral impression that force is no longer necessary."

If it is true that the NDF panel is genuinely interested in peace -- and this is what we personally see in Ocampo, Zumel and Capulong -- does it not then behoove the clearly stronger AFP to reexamine its attitudes?

The Salas arrest, while sensational, is only an incident in a far larger picture. This picture goes beyond the present confusion in the NDF ranks, the triumphant mood in the AFP and the worry they are causing a hopeful nation.

Basic is the fact that these peace talks are nothing short of a test for all Filipinos on their capacity for a peaceful solution of deep conflict. If the talks fail, we all fail.

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PHILIPPINES

AFF GENERAL SUGGESTS SALAS BETRAYED BY COMRADES

HK031229 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 3 Oct 86 p 28

[Text] Suspected Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) chairman Rodolfo Salas, 39, also known as Kumander Bilog to the New People's Army (NPA), is believed to have been betrayed by his comrades for his alleged "hard line stance" in the midst of an internal struggle within the CPP, a Ministry of National Defense (MND) adviser said yesterday.

Brig. Gen. Isidro Agunod (Ret.), assistant secretary for plans and programs of the MND, added that according to information he has received, Salas's betrayal has paved the way for the ascendancy of Benito Tiamzo, as the new CPP chairman.

Without any interference from Salas and from the ultra-militant NPA general staff, Tiamzon can now take over, Agunod said.

The betrayal would push the National Democratic Front (NDF) to try to effect the release of Salas which if successful, could "create a deep rift between President Corazon C. Aquino and the military," he added.

On the other hand, if President Aquino does not release Salas, the NDF/CPP/NPA could just as easily charge the President with insincerity and deceit in offering the olive branch of peace to them, "so that they can lay the blame on Mrs Aquino for the collapse of the peace talks," Agunod said.

Meanwhile, the capture of Salas gives the NDF/CPP/NPA "tremendous propaganda mileage" that the military is out to sabotage the peace talks of President Aquino, he said. Salas's capture also enables the rebels to get rid of a party leadership whose usefulness has far outlived itself, he added.

Agunod pointed out that Salas was "junked" by his comrades for several tactical and strategic reasons.

One is to punish Salas for strategic error in calling for a boycott of the February presidential elections which left the NDF/CPP/NPA out in the cold and unpopular among the people, Agunod said.

Another reason for Salas's betrayal and capture by the military is to insure that Tiamzon would not be challenged in his assumption to the CPP top post.

"They (NDF/CPP/NPA), however, overlooked the recent August 29 ruling of the Ministry of Justice that insurgents apprehended after February 25, 1986, would no longer be pardoned by President Aquino and the Filipino people," Agunod said. "And even if Salas is released, he would no longer be trusted to hold sensitive positions within the party, thus preserving the first and second reasons for betraying him."

Agunod however did not disclose where he got his information about Salas's alleged betrayal which served as the basis for assuming the existence of an "internal struggle" within the CPP between the hardliners and the soft elements, particularly over the boycott issue during the last elections.

Described by Agunod as the former CPP chairman, Salas was captured by Constabulary Security Group elements Monday night in front of the Philippine General Hospital where he was about to have a check-up.

Salas reportedly had a goiter and nasal bone deviation operation about seven days earlier.

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CSO: 4200/31

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL URGES ATTENTION TO DISSENTING SOLDIERS

HK061435 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Oct 86 p 4

[Editorial: "Flag Patches Go Down"]

[Text] Defense and military authorities should now look into reports of what appears to be open dissension among some military elements in the Eastern Visayas. To the average citizen, reports that officers and men are tearing off the flag patches in their uniforms to dramatize their disenchantment over some government policies are quite disturbing.

What makes the move even more serious is the fact that it is reportedly being spearheaded by a senior military officer identified with the Reform the Armed Forces Movement.

To begin with, open dissent is unknown to the military establishment's long history -- dramatically broken only perhaps in that historic February revolt led by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and Gen. Fidel V. Ramos that toppled President Marcos.

Also, these disgruntled officers and men may have legitimate grievances that should immediately be addressed by consultation and dialogue with our leaders.

Despite government avowals about encouraging free debate and open discussion of issues, the military establishment should be a very special group of men and women covered by an altogether different code of conduct.

The military should be looked up to as the bastion of discipline and order. This desired image of our men in uniform is certainly not bolstered by reports that smack of mutiny and utter lack of decorum -- not even in the name of dissent, legitimate or otherwise.

Disciplined solidarity in our military establishment is more important today than ever before. This is because the nation is up against highly organized armed elements that threaten its very existence. The authorities should therefore move with decisiveness on matters that may in any way undermine discipline and unity in military ranks.

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CSO: 4200/31

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL ADVOCATES NONPARTISAN ARMED FORCES

HK7070748 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 5 Oct 86 p 6

[Editorial: "Politics in the AFP]

[Text] Even in the most trying periods of their history, the Armed Forces managed to remain essentially nonpartisan, in the sense that they did not campaign for or against certain candidates. This was because they had a tradition to uphold. Those who broke away from the tradition were regarded as outcasts.

Recently, a report said that some young officers were going to form a political party. Reacting to the report, Gen. Fidel V. Ramos said they should first get out of the Armed Forces.

Generally, any group of citizens can form a political party, but if that right were extended to the members of the Armed Forces, the military would likely be divided into various parties and the Armed Forces would not be able to function at all. That is the reason no armed forces in the world are permitted to take part in partisan political activities.

In the Philippines, the threat comes less from the soldiers than from the political leadership, which in its drive for power attempted in the past to involve the Armed Forces in politics by ordering them to do odd jobs during the election period. In many instances, the poor soldiers had to obey even though they detested what they had been told to do.

The ratification of a new Constitution providing for relatively more powerful legislature and judiciary to check the powers of the presidency will diminish the temptation to use the military for political purposes.

That will only be in fairness to the Armed Forces whose men have generally abstained from the ambition of becoming politicians while in the service.

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PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

HOLD LIST UPDATED--The Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG] has renewed the hold order on 100 persons and removed the hold order on 100 persons and removed 7 persons from the original hold list. Those dropped from the hold list were: Jose Yao Campos, Nurdy P. Diploma, Pacifico Edralin Marcos, Lloyd Marcos, Tessie Salas, Evelyn Singson, Anselmo Trinidad, Jr. [Excerpt] Manila THE MANILA EVENING POST in English 1 Oct 86 p 8 HK] /12624

ABOLITION OF METRO MANILA COMMISSION--The Constitutional Commission [Con-com] yesterday approved the abolition of the Metro Manila Commission which will be replaced by a metropolitan authority as a coordinating body. The Con-com also approved the restoration of the mayor counsel-type of government in metro Manila and the election of the members of city and municipal councils. If the local elections are held simultaneously, then the senators and members of the House of Representatives may well likewise serve for the same period. These were approved by inclusion in the transitory provision of the new constitution. [Text] [Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 4 Oct 86 HK] /12624

MINDANAO SECESSION MOVE--Former Assemblyman and State Minister Antonio R. Tupaz yesterday cautioned the government to "stop massaging itself with thirdrate reports that the negotiations with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) under Nur Misuari is inching toward peace." In a speech before Mindanao civic, business, professional and student leaders, Tupaz stressed that the people of Mindanao and the intelligence service of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines [NAFP] know that Reuben R. Canoy and Misuari have won millions of followers for an independent Mindanao during the last few weeks. Tupaz's contention came on the heels of statements attributed to NAFP chief Gen. Fidel V. Ramos and presidential representative Agapito Aquino that Misuari is no longer mentioning secession and is talking about autonomy in his current consultations with Muslims. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Oct 86 p 20 HK] /12624

CB ANNOUNCES INVESTMENT PROGRAM--Manila, 29 Sept (AFP)--The Philippine Government has converted 10.72 million dollars in foreign loans into equity in local firms under a special investment program, the Central Bank (CB) announced Monday. The amount is the total involved in seven applications, largely from foreign investors, approved so far by the government's Monetary Board under its debt-to-equity scheme, a CB statement said. The program,

intended to trim Manila's 26 billion dollar foreign debt and reduce government involvement in private business, allows foreign lenders to sell Philippine IOU's at a slight loss to investors. The IOU's officially called "foreign currency obligations," are convertible to equity in firms taken over by Philippine Government banks. The fresh investments were made in agriculture, mining, educational facilities, and the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, the statement said. CB governor [as received] Gabriel Singson said two of the factors considered in approving the applications were "the desirability of the type of investment...and the perceived impact of the transaction on the level of reserve money." [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0740 GMT 29 Sep 86 HK] /12624

IMPORTS LIBERALIZED--The government has liberalized the importation of an additional 80 commodities in line with its commitment to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. The Monetary Board, the policy-making body of the Central Bank, last Friday approved Circular No. 1117 which formalized the deregulation of these 80 items. Among the items liberalized are polyester, polyamides in other forms, automobile tires of all sizes excluding steel belted tires, truck tires, motorcycle tires, bicycle tires, tractor tires, ferro-silico-manganese, cold-rolled flat and hexagonal steel bars, tubes and pipes, gray cast iron, paper for office machines, book paper, printing and writing paper, wax paper, polyamide fibers, monosodium glutamate in bulk, asbestos-vinyl tiles and comic magazines. The IMF has made the deregulation of these 80 commodities whose importation was previously under control as a condition for the approval of a Philippine request for a new standby agreement. The import liberalization program is actually one of the more difficult qualitative targets imposed by the Fund. It is strongly being opposed by local businessmen. The IMF is requiring the complete deregulation of some 1,232 items before May 1, 1988 as a condition for its release of additional credit to the country. The latest batch of 80 items was supposed to have been liberalized last April but this was postponed due to vigorous opposition from some businessmen. [Text] [Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 29 Sep 86 p 2 HK] /12624

AFP GENERAL UNDER INVESTIGATION--A Government official yesterday confirmed an NAFF [New Armed Forces of the Philippines] general on active duty is among those being probed on suspicion of amassing ill-gotten wealth during the regime of deposed President Marcos. He is the first Armed Forces general on active duty to be investigated by the Anti-Graft and corrupt practices Board, which is currently conducting a discreet inquiry into the wealth of some 46 military officers. The general, reportedly has a one-star rank, but Presidential Commission on Good Government [PCGG] commissioner Quintin Doromal, who talked to newsmen yesterday, would not disclose his name. According to Doromal, the unidentified general is being probed for acquiring houses, business concerns and moneys valued at an amount "beyond his normal income." He added this NAFF general is being probed ahead of other active military officers also being eyed for investigation because there is "more evidence" against him than the rest. Actual investigation on this general reportedly began last month. The PCGG commissioner said that depending on the findings made during the investigation, the case shall be filed either before a court martial or "other forums" like the sandiganbayan. Only recently, the military antigraft board cleared two retired Army generals and a Navy Admiral of suspicions of having amassed ill-gotten wealth during their tours of duty. The decision was handed down by the board based on findings that their wealth was "within tolerable limits." [Text] [Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 3 Oct 86 p 7 HK] /12624

THAILAND

DEPUTY FINANCE MINISTER VIEWS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES

Bangkok LAK THAI in Thai 11 Sep 86 pp 55-57

[Interview with Dr Suphachai Phanitchaphak, deputy minister of finance; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] How do you feel about yourself being the hope of the people, about being the leader in solving economic problems?

[Answer] I have to thank you indeed for the expectations, be it from the people who elected me or from the people who are involved in the economy--the businessmen, friends, and the more senior officials. I must express my deep gratitude. For this reason, I have pledged to myself that I will work relentlessly, using my ideas, the given moral support, and my intelligence in helping to solve the problems the best I can--this is what I have been doing all along.

Especially now, when there are these big expectations of me. This is too much of a burden for me to shoulder. However, now that you have entrusted me with these things, I accept doing them. But you must understand, if you please, that I have to work as a team member, be it on a big team or a small team. Of course, I will push the work forward with all my ability. But you must understand there are other members on my team. We must respect other teams in the cabinet, and teams that work in my ministry. For me alone to do the work successfully--that would be impossible.

But I will do the best I can so that there is a teamwork spirit. I have maintained all along that I did not work for reputation and fame at all. So the success that you want, I want it to be the success of the whole team. As for the hope you have in me, I would like to tell you that I accept working to fulfill that hope, and I will work together with others as a team, for the success of the cabinet as a whole, and for the Ministry of Finance's team as a whole, and to say that we--both the minister of finance and the deputy minister of finance, as well as other high-ranking officials in all departments and divisions in the ministry--are, all together, successful.

And, particularly, with regard to the dignity of the Ministry of Finance, I will do my best to protect it and to work to improve the status and image of the ministry, and I must do it successfully. I will do my best. But, please

understand that there are a lot of problems, and that we must work together as a team. We must work on both the fiscal and monetary policies and other economic matters. I will point out the ways in which these things can be done, and then we all will help each other, and we must continue to accumulate energy, because we probably can not complete our work in a few months or a few years. But we will have to do the same kind of work in the future.

If we created this spirit and a method of working together as a united front, eliminated the suspicion between the government servants and politicians, tried to maintain harmony among the coalition parties that are working together—that is, adhering to the principle that although they are from different parties, their policies are national policies, or policies of the coalition government, not anybody's policies, and that they must help each other carry them out successfully—if all this could be done, then it would be a credit to all parties in the coalition government.

[Question] On this point, how well do you think an economic team, which consists of many parties such as this one, can be coordinated in its work?

[Answer] Many people have said this method of assigning portfolios would create a problem. I look at it from an opposite point of view. And I do not want to compare it with a previous government formation, in which there was this kind of assignment. This is because in a previous government formation, in which there was this kind of assignment, the coming together of a coalition government was very shaky; and the coalition was formed in such a way that there was a division of interests among the parties, and so each party was assigned a portfolio for an entire ministry.

It was the opposite of what exists now. We have not joined together for the purpose of dividing the interests among ourselves. You can see that if we have joined together in order to share our interests, the outcome could not be what it is. At this point, we have moved to assign the portfolios in such a way as to create better coordination at the national level. This is because if policies are formulated for each ministry at the cabinet-level, at the party-level, or at the ministry-level, then when the policies get to the minister-level or the parliament-level, the division into groups or factions will disappear.

And when I look at the members of each ministry's team, especially, those of the Ministry of Finance, I think that they would get along very well, because each person who has been in the position where he will work is capable, that is, we know his background. And as far as I have interacted with them since they were appointed, I can see that the individual ministers who are working together understand each other.

So, I think that if there is no incitement to create disunity now, if they can be firmly united, if they think of the interests of their ministry, of their outfit, if they think of the interests of the country, of the administration, of the parliament, and of the government first—then there does not seem to be any problem. Even though people are trying to stir up one person against another, in reality there is no problem; it is only a minor misunderstanding.

I think if we focus on helping each other in the efforts to create more unity in this government, members of this government, as I see it, will get along. This is not just empty talk, because when you look at each ministry, you will see that the individual running each ministry are capable of formulating a unified policy; and they have a clear, abstract picture of their work. This demonstrates that their directions agree.

Work assignment is necessary; and once everybody has been assigned a job to do, when these people have done their jobs successfully, the success must be considered that of the ministry, not of any one particular individual.

[Question] Members of each party, really, hope to bring about accomplishments for their own party. On this point, would there be a problem in working together in the same ministry?

[Answer] I say, not so. Don't forget one thing, and that is today the people are watching closely. Those members may achieve success in the job assigned to their party; but if they were people who brought about a rift, that could be viewed by the people as a negative aspect, because the people do not want politicians who cause disunity.

To push for successful implementation of one's party policies, in accordance with the procedure, without creating disunity--this is desired by the people. It should not be a case of pushing the policy of one's party and saying it has to be this policy first, and thereby creating disunity and making it a must to do a lot of reshuffling--this absolutely cannot be used as a record in a campaign for the people's votes, because the people will look at the issue of unity and togetherness. Any party that causes disunity, as shown by its record, will make the people feel fed up; the people will feel hopeless about that party.

[Question] Beside the four parties in the coalition, there is another group of friends of the prime minister. There is a view that the prime minister's economic team is stronger than the coalition's one, and that it would dominate the economic policy. Is this possible?

[Answer] Who is going to dominate whom--well, it would be a difficult thing to do that this time around. This is because each person--be he a member of the prime minister's economic team or a member of each party's team, each party's team assigned to each ministry having the authority to do the work, in any case--cannot claim that he has been given an off-limit line by the prime minister's team.

This is because the four political parties can coordinate their work among themselves in order to push their own jobs, unless there is a disunity. On this, they cannot say that the prime minister's team is blocking them.

I believe that as long as the coalition parties remain united, still in harmony, they can push anything, express any political view with weight in order to create a balance between the four parties and the prime minister's team of aides--I believe this can readily be done. If it cannot be done, it is only their own fault.

If there is no disunity I believe they can certainly do it (work together). I especially view the prime minister's team as supplementing us because the prime minister's team is in the area where it does not directly run the ministries, but works in its capacity as the brains, as the provider of ideas. Whether we accept or reject these ideas, can be debated in the cabinet.

And if all the political parties think that certain things in the political area have to be done, they can vote and get them done. Do not worry about that.

I have also listened to the academicians say that members of the coalition parties' team are sparsely spread out among many ministries, possibly making them weak. For this reason, I am saying that if there is a picture of them being spread out, they must group together and create a center. In bringing the policies together, it must be understood that the policies of every party have the same goals, although the means may be different. And if the means are many that would lead to the same goals, then there should be compromise; and there should be adherence to the idea of unity, because the people are closely watching their unity.

Therefore in this past campaign the political parties made a turn-around and talked about their policies, and about the fact that they would push their own parties' policies for the good of the nation, but would also bring about unity among politicians. And this is the point which would improve the image of democracy a great deal.

[Question] In the past, the problem which the political parties faced was that the monetary and fiscal policies were formulated by the prime minister's people, thereby holding back the ministries' programs from being implemented. Is this situation going to happen again?

[Answer] I don't think it's going to be that way this time, because in the past the problem was that overspending was so great, that the government had to be very careful about spending. This time around, there is still the problem of spending; but the revenue problems are looked at more. We must look at the problems of inadequate revenues, of lowered revenues. This does not mean that we are going to have to increase taxes in order to solve the problems.

But it means that the collection methods must be corrected so that they provide convenience. There must be a definitive collection policy, providing clarity in tax collection. For example, how many years can it be retroactive. And also make tax collection meet the goals more precisely and prevent overlapping.

Whether it should excise tax or revenue tax, sales tax or manufacturing tax, it should be stated in a straightforward manner. And when I look at the personnel who has come in to run the Ministry of Finance this time around--Minister Suthee Singsaneh--I find he is one who understands the monetary and fiscal problems, and he understands politics well.

The thing is this, what the monetary and fiscal policies have all along been criticized for is that they were viewed as being too extreme, as being at the far end of the spectrum, and too radical. I feel that anybody who criticizes this should understand the previous circumstances, (in which policymakers) were besieged by problems. And perhaps the political situation was not in such a good balance as it should be. This is because there were uncertainties in politics; there were vicissitudes or stormy times. So, there has to be caution in this area.

Now, on this point, if we create certainty and definite directions in politics, and then you tell us that it's going to be the same, that is, the problem will lie with the Ministry of Finance. Well, you must understand that the Ministry of Finance, in administering its work, does not look at spending alone; it has to look at the revenues also.

And if we can improve the effectiveness of collection so that there are adequate revenues for the government, then there could be more flexibility in spending.

So, as far as pursuing moderate monetary and fiscal policies is concerned, I believe Minister Suthee has a profound understanding of this. I am not worried about it. And as for the cooperation from the deputy minister of finance from the Thai Nation Party, well, we have had several meetings in order to formulate policies. We have not covered all the details, but we have reviewed our principles. I don't think there will be anything that would cause conflict.

[Question] In your part of the responsibilities, the most important is the Revenue Department. You are aware of the problem of overlap in collection. Are there going to be any concrete measures to correct the problem?

[Answer] Measures that are concrete, I have to omit for now, because I have to consult with the minister and the directors general so that those concrete measures are clear. But I will follow these principles: First, we should expand our tax collection, by inducing the people outside the tax system into the system as much as possible, not to focus on increasing taxes on the people who are already paying taxes within the system. This is because the most complaints we have are that the people who are honestly paying taxes are facing tax increases. Therefore, we must stress using more of our people to induce the people who are outside the system into the system to pay taxes. Not more taxes, but paying the taxes due.

Once more people outside the system have come into the system we can, in the future, relieve more of the burden off the people inside the system. But if the people outside the system are still numerous, and there are few taxpayers within the system, more of the tax burden will fall on the shoulders of these few. And there will be disadvantages in businesses as well. Solving the problem in this area will bring about justice as well.

Secondly, among those who pay taxes, our guidelines are that for businesses that have not reached the break-even point, such as small businesses in row-houses, we should not put too much emphasis on them. We should not waste too

much of our time, for it would be wasting too many human resources to collect small amounts of taxes. Besides, we would be creating hardships for the people at the lower level. We should use more of our personnel for the collection of taxes from businesses at a high level, where there is concrete management and certainty, where there is a definite accounting system so that we can collect the right amount of taxes, not collecting taxes based on assessments.

Thirdly, the collection of tax revenues both from juristic persons and individuals, as well as excise taxes, would have to be reorganized and divided so that there is more and more correct collection, that is, we might shift to collecting more excise taxes, that is, eliminating revenue taxes entirely—not paying both types of taxes, but shifting to directly paying more excise taxes, which are manufacturing taxes. More exact counting of the number of boxes and packages. This can reduce the burden of taxes.

In particular, when it has been changed to excise taxes, we can apply the tax collection method based on the excess of the value, called VAT [Value Added Tax]. Collecting only from the excess of the value would help reduce the repetition in paying taxes that has caused a lot of difficulties all along.

Fourthly, as to retroactive tax collection, there must be a principle on which it can be decided how many years back it can be retroactive. It should not be a case of being retroactive to any point in time. And then once the point of retroactiveness is reached there should not be any further taxes beyond that. It should be an entire and complete tax collection for each year.

On this, there would be a little problem regarding personnel; the Revenue Department has a small number of personnel. And there is no budget for increasing the number, because the number of personnel is allowed to increase only 25 percent a year. We have to solve the problem by moving personnel and concentrate them in the area where the most benefits would be gained first.

[Question] There are problems which people often complain about, where tax assessments indicate that there is dishonesty; taxes are assessed higher for some and lower for others in spite of the fact that they have the same type of business. How is this problem going to be solved?

[Answer] I forgot to tell you. Just a moment ago, I touched on it a little bit. What is going to be done is that stores will be encouraged to have a more accurate accounting system, so that collecting the right amount of taxes can be realistically applied, in place of the system based on assessments. This is what we are doing; and I am trying to stress this, so that we can reduce those criticisms and gossip, which I have heard and understood.

[Question] The Bangkok Bank, for which you are responsible, also has a lot of problems, particularly, in the area of giving out credits. How are you going to improve on this?

[Answer] I have not conferred with the ranking officials who are running this bank. But I think that the principle for doing the job right in the matter of finance is that it should be done so that everyone survives. That is, not doing anything that would be too extreme, creating a problem for all parties. This is because the matter of finance is a sensitive one, and one that requires a lot of confidence. Therefore, compromises are required; and every side must render cooperation. As for the problems with the Krung Thai Bank, because they have been mounting for so long, they must press for decisions soon, and get the problems solved. But I must emphasize that it should not be in a radical manner; there must be a compromise, so that all sides benefit. That is, those who are debtors who have to repay the bank must fulfill the conditions set forth for a good client. In other words, that account should be allowed to flow more properly. In making a living, the client should pay the interest if he can. The additional collateral that is necessary should be brought forth. It should not be the case that once the client has some profit, he directs that profit for the repayment of debts that are outside the system.

I believe that the management of Krung Thai Bank has an understanding and is capable. The stories in the past were stories written about it in such a way that they seemed to be extreme. And in that period, it was a time when political variables were involved. In solving these problems, one should not allow politics to get too much involved. Things should be decided in financial terms, in terms of possible paying off the debts. And there must be no loss for the bank, which belongs to the government.

[Question] The story that you are pushing for Dr Nukul Prachuabmoh, former governor of the Bank of Thailand, to be reinstated in the Ministry of Finance--how true is it?

[Answer] About this story, I must explain it clearly, and that is, it is not I who has gone around giving out information that I would push the case of Dr Nukul. This is because the management of personnel and the matter of government officials' ranks are all under the authority of the minister. Therefore, I have no right to interfere.

But if I were to say anything, I would say it in terms of justice. There is a possibility that there would be a consideration of this matter because, in the past, when Mr Nukul left government service in order to go and help with the work of the Bank of Thailand, he followed procedures. Therefore, now that he is out of the Bank of Thailand, we must find out if he left the bank in accordance with procedures. This has to be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Ministry of Finance, and it is a matter that has to be considered by ranking officials so that it is in accordance with the rules and regulations. This is for justice for all sides.

I would like to emphasize once more that it is not a matter in which I would do anything special to push it; it is simply a matter of giving justice, a matter belonging to ranking officials, a matter for the minister of finance.

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CSO: 4207/345

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

WORKERS' DISCONTENT WITH COVERUP OF MAJOR THEFT REPORTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 1 Jul 86 p 3

[Article by Dien Phuoc: "Theft of 51 Tons of MSG at the Thien Huong Factory Must Be Dealt with Thoroughly"]

[Text] During several recent self-criticism and criticism sessions at the Thien Huong MSG Factory subordinate to the MSG and Instant Noodle Joint Enterprise, many workers recalled a story which--for all of them, male and female--had almost "sunk into oblivion." It was about the theft of 51 tons of MSG at the factory.

The incident happened in early March 1983. When it was uncovered, a security guard fled and a warehouse keeper and a processing workshop supervisor were detained temporarily. The amount of MSG in question would be part of the contractual output of the Cholimex Corp in the 5th Precinct. Cholimex had handed over raw materials to the factory for processing and would have received the finished product according to a fixed norm. However, according to the delivery and receipt records, the exact quantity of raw materials was delivered but the quantity of finished product received was 51 tons short!

Soon afterward, many inspection teams came to the factory for investigation but so far workers have not yet been informed of any result of the inquiry; only once in July 1983 were they notified by the director general of the MSG and Instant Noodle Joint Enterprise that "the factory had lost an amount of MSG and the director had lost the 'progressive laborer' title." Workers were surprised by the fact that in September 1985, the warehouse keeper and workshop supervisor were freed and paid retroactive salaries for the March 1983-September 1985 period by the factory and that the other persons responsible in this case continued to get promotions and higher salaries at regular intervals." In fact, the director general of the joint enterprise, who was concurrently director of the factory, was appointed vice minister of food industry while the deputy director of the Thien Huong factory was promoted to the post of factory director cum deputy director general of the MSG and Instant Noodle Joint Enterprise!

This situation dragged on so that the Cholimex Corp. in the 5th Precinct could not receive the exact quantity of contractually processed MSG. It was not until a working session was held in early 1986 by the Ministry of Food

and the municipal people's committee's standing committee that this question was resolved temporarily in these terms: "The MSG and Instant Noodle Joint Enterprise must deliver 51 tons of MSG to the Supply and Export Corp.--the successor to the Cholimex Corp.--in the 5th Precinct so that the municipality may have exchange merchandise to defray the incurred expenses and may have less difficulties to cope with. The two agencies must consider this transaction merely as a provisional delivery pending a settlement of account by money payment...."

Fifty-one tons of MSG are equivalent to the yearly output of the Viet Tri MSG Factory and are now valued at more than 20 million dong! This huge property of the state was stolen by bad people. The factory workers request that the responsible sectors and the MSG and Instant Noodle Joint Enterprise proceed with a thorough solution to this question and bring it into broad daylight instead of allowing it to be hushed up by some big shots.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

NEED TO CRITICIZE COURT SECTOR RECOGNIZED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

[Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column: "Should Opinions Also Be Contributed to the Court Sector?"]

[Text] For many months now we have been pleased and excited as we have carefully followed the Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column. The article "Some Requests of the Masses Vis-a-Vis the Self-Criticism and Criticism Campaign," which was published in the newspaper's 1 July 1986 issue, synthesized opinions about the sectors which must pay attention to doing a good job of carrying out criticism and self criticism, such as the real estate sector, the public security sector, etc., as many readers had recommended. However, we believe that another sector which should also pay much attention is the court sector. Perhaps because only a few people have the occasion to come into contact with the work of the courts, especially trials, fewer people "brush up against" the court sector than the public security, commercial, financial, real estate, and other sectors. Furthermore, many people still view the court as having supreme power and as being above all social authority, so it is untouchable.

I myself have many times been in contact with relatives and friends who have had the occasion to "go to court," and have several times attended court sessions and have heard complaints (perhaps "complaint" is not the right word) and therefore have a few preliminary observations to make about the court sector in our city. They may be summarized as follows:

Because the court has very great authority and makes the final decision regarding the fate and lives of citizens, the people engaged in court work (from judges and procurators to the people's assessors) must have very high moral quality and strong ability to ensure that trials are truly fair, are truly "scales of justice," and are truly a "socialist Bao Cong." But in actuality I think that the cadres of our court sector, especially in the south, are still very inexperienced. The party and the people demand that the court cadres have very pure morals and not accept bribes, and of course that they be impartial and not make decisions on the basis of sentiment or be subjective, bureaucratic, or paternalistic.

Especially, with regard to ability we know that in our city there is a very great shortage of legal cadres with post-graduate legal educations, and few of them have college-level legal educations. How, then, can it be ensured that the judges are truly qualified to judge. We think that legal expertise is not merely a matter of memorizing an article of a certain law or ascertain guidance document. Furthermore, the articles of the legal code are very complex and numerous, so the legal cadres must be equipped with broad knowledge of the law. It is especially important that they firmly grasp the theoretical viewpoints of Marxism-Leninism so that they can understand and correctly apply them in trials. In many cases the judge must at the same time be a social scientist and a skilled psychiatrist, in order to fully evaluate the complicated nature of each case and each interested party. We have heard stories about many civil trials in which the judge was very simplistic and could not persuade the two parties to accept his conclusions and analyses. The complaint we heard most was about the "paternalistic" attitude of some judges and people's assessors. Because of their limited ability, they impose their opinions and viewpoints (which sometimes viewpoints that are strange to Marxism-Leninism), do not want to listen to the interested parties, and don't even want to listen to the lawyers (people who grasp the matter because in addition to studying the case they directly and very carefully study the interested parties.)

We think that the court sector is a very important part of our proletarian dictatorship and has very great responsibility. Therefore, it is required to make the very great efforts of people engaged in legal work. Since the liberation, the court sector has achieved outstanding accomplishments, especially in the political and criminal trials, but with regard to civil trials it is still beset with a considerable number of deficiencies. In the present self-criticism and criticism campaign, we hope that the party members in the court sector. Furthermore, the party newspaper must appeal for the cadres and people to contribute their opinions so that it can be increasingly worthy of its great responsibility.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VIETNAM

NEGATIVE INCIDENTS AT FISHING ENTERPRISE ANALYZED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 20 Aug 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Dinh Chi: "Truthful Voices on the Major Negative Incidents at the Municipal State Fishing Enterprise: Violations of the Mastership Right, Relaxation of Management, and Mistakes in Using Cadres Were the Reasons for the Negative Incidents"]

[Text] Editor's Note: In its 12 June 1986 and 12 August 1986 issues the newspaper SAIGON GIAI PHONG dealt with major negative incidents which occurred at the State Fishing Cooperative of the Municipal Aquatic Products Service and published excerpts from the report recommending disciplining of cadres and party members of party chapters 8 and 9 and the plenary meeting of the trade union executive committee at the basic level.

The negative incidents have been investigated and brought to light. From those negative incidents we can learn many lessons about the use of cadres, the role of local party and mass organizations, management principles, etc.

In order to begin to further clarify those matters, on 14 August 1986 the newspaper SAIGON GIAI PHONG listened to the opinions of a number of party members and workers about the reasons for the negative incidents and the responsibility of the "quadrumvirate" on exercising the collective mastership right in struggling to build up the inner ranks. That meeting was presided over by comrade Nguyen Dong, a member of the party committee and secretary of the enterprise's trade union chapter, and was attended by representatives of the party committees, trade union chapter, Youth Union chapter, and the enterprise's administrative, organizational, financial, planning, project management, and machinery department. We noted the contents of those opinions:

Mistakes in Using Cadres

Nguyen Van Troi, former head of the technical office of the Municipal State Fishing Enterprise and the "central" figure of most of the major negative incidents which occurred there, such as allying with bad people to sell a pontoon bridge, machinery, equipment, and materials belonging to the unit. The degeneracy of Thoi, a cadre who was not a party member but was assigned to an important position, took place over a period of many years but was not

brought to a halt, so Thoi plunged more and more deeply into negative activity. The director and party committee secretary of the enterprise had much confidence in Thoi evaluated him as being a "capable cadre" to whom they had full confidence. Over a long period of time, Thoi abused his support from the leadership to do as he pleased and remove himself from management by the specialized offices and sections.

Comrade Ta Thi Thuy, a member of party chapter 7 and deputy director of the enterprise's financial office, said that management principles, such as by accepting hundreds of thousands of dong in cash for repairing the ship Cholimex. We struggled, but without result, because the director himself sympathized with him. From a worker's letter of denunciation we learned that Thoi had engaged in a negative act. The leadership cadres were also aware of that, but ignored it. Therefore, Thoi became increasingly subjective and became more and more involved in crimes. If halted at an early date they would not have resulted in prolonged negativism and become increasingly serious."

Clearly, the enterprise's leadership made a mistake in using cadres and lacked control, and also ignored all feed-back from cadres and the masses about the negative phenomena. It was surprising that many good cadres and masses were also not listened to.

In the meeting, Comrade Bui Van Cau, a long-time party member who had been a battalion commander during the resistance war and served as head of the materials office after joining the enterprise, after which he was demoted to deputy supervisor of the machinery department and now is only a welder who earns a basic salary of 95 dong, said with flowing tears, "I am not a big shot, but would like to speak as a party member. The party has taught us that we must use cadres with good ability and moral quality, so why did the enterprise leadership use Thoi, a person who specialized in stealing state property. Meanwhile, people who dared struggle against Thoi's negative acts from the beginning were retaliated against." Party member Dang Ngoc Chau of party chapter 6 confirmed that "A mistake of leadership that must be corrected is that it has placed too much confidence in and go along with bad people, but does not listen to the truthful opinions of good party members and workers."

The conservative, bureaucratic mechanism and the relaxation of enterprise management were reasons for the negative phenomena.

In addition to the reason of cadre utilization, many people are of the opinion that another reason was that the enterprise changed directors many times within a short period of time. That is correct, and proves the confusion and sluggishness in the cadre organization work in the municipal aquatic products sector. Encompassing everything was the ignoring of state regulations and policies of the state, the incorrect application of stipulations regarding the right to take the initiative in production and commerce, which led to the over-all relaxation of management.

Comrade Tran Van Thang, deputy director for internal affairs and a member of the standing committee of the enterprise's standing committee, said that recently the enterprise's management has been very lax. There has been much

abuse of principles in the use of property, such as selling machinery, materials, and equipment without working through the settlement council of the upper echelon! An objective reason was that for a long time the enterprise was faced with practically a stalemated production situation. Ships could not produce because they lacked oil. Even now it has many debts. The enterprise must bear the primary responsibility, but the main reason was the fishing enterprise's management mechanism.

Over a long period of time the enterprise operated in accordance with the old bureaucratic-subsidy mechanism. All raw materials, materials, and fuel depended on the upper echelon. Many ships were out of service but the enterprise was unable to repair them. With regard to production, the enterprise only pursued output and did not take into account quality and the effectiveness of production. Therefore, it always operated at a deficit, the workers lacked work, and their living conditions were very difficult. That situation became fertile soil for the appearance of negative phenomena. Added to the weaknesses and deficiencies and in applying the production take-off policies, and exercising the right of the basic level to take the initiative in production and commercial management. From the beginning, the enterprise leadership comrades were confused. For example, the policy of liquidating property in order to concentrate capital is correct, but it was implemented improperly and selling things arbitrarily, which created openings that could be exploited by bad people. The enterprise's operational apparatus was thrown into chaos when it changed over from subsidies to taking the initiative in production. The negative phenomena that arose demonstrated the weaknesses and deficiencies in applying the production take-off policies, and in managing the enterprise's activities in accordance with the new requirements. Of course, there is also a basis for concluding that in view of the new requirements the enterprise's leadership capability, when faced with challenges, demonstrated its ineptitude. Comrade Tran Van Tuyen, deputy secretary of the enterprise's Youth Union chapter, said that "One of the reasons for the negative phenomena was that the managerial level of the leadership comrades was still low and they had not been trained. Most were people who had been transferred from other sectors, so they did not fully understand the aquatic products sector.

The role of the party, trade union, and Youth Union organizations was eroded:

The serious negative incidents that occurred there created a strong impression on the thought of all cadres, party members, and working masses with regard to their responsibility. The enterprise's leadership nucleus--the party organization or more specifically the party committee--had many deficiencies. "The greatest deficiency was that it neglected its ideological work, and during the past 6 months has continued to ignore it." That statement was made by a party committee member who was also secretary of the enterprise's trade union chapter. Because of the many difficulties, a number of unstable party members could not play their role and were affected by the negative elements. Truong The Nguyen, deputy secretary Party Chapter 8, frankly outlined the reasons: "Why did only two party chapters, 8 and 9, dare speak the truth, while the other nine did not? " Was it because the other party chapters included negative party members who also sold oil, fish, etc., so they dared not struggle but ignored or sympathized with the negative incidents."

During the meeting the workers discussed a detail about which they were very concerned: "Struggle in the party committee was very weak." Comrade Lai Van Thao, a member of party Chapter 8 and head of the organization office, said that "We should have taken the part of the masses in struggling against negative phenomena, but the secretary of the party committee sympathized with and took the part of the people who committed those acts. The role of the party organization in the struggle against negativism faded. That led to the elimination of its mass leadership role. Tran Van Duong, a member of Party Chapter 9, said frankly that "Those of us who felt that someone was right we automatically supported him and opposed negativism, but the party committee provided no guidance."

The young engineer Nguyen Cong Binh, who boldly led the way in the struggle against negativism in the enterprise, emotionally said that "The party taught us that we have to struggle against negative phenomena within our ranks." But from the beginning the party committee of the State Fishing Enterprise turned its back on us! Comrade Ba Tien, secretary of the party committee, even sought ways to get revenge against me!

The collective mastership right according to the mechanism of the party leading, the people serving as the masses, and the state managing was not respected. Comrade Nguyen Dong, secretary of the enterprise's trade union chapter, stressed that "The governmental administration did not rely on the mass organizations and did not utilize the collective mastership mechanism" and Comrade Tran Van Tuyen expressed agreement with the observation of the secretary of the Trade Union chapter: "The role of our Youth Union was like a dim shadow. We still don't know what the relationship between the party, the governmental administration, and the enterprise is. In fact, the roles of the trade union and the Youth Union were overshadowed and taken lightly!"

In that frank exchange, we noted the determination and resolution of the truthful cadres, party members, and worker masses of the Municipal State Fishing Enterprise, who wanted prompt steps taken to appropriately discipline the individuals who committed negative acts, and prosecute cases involving the illegal buying and selling of state property. At the same time, they affirmed the necessity of rectifying all activities of the enterprise, including the leadership of the enterprise and the Aquatic Products Service.

They want to rapidly stabilize the situation in order to have conditions for concentrating on fulfilling their production and commercial missions and advancing the enterprise.

5616

CSO: 4209/870

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

VEGETABLE OIL EXPORTED VIA SPECIALIZED SHIP

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Aug 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Ngoc Trinh: "For First Time Vegetable Oil Exported Via Specialized Ship at Saigon Port"]

[Text] On 25 July 1986 the specialized ship Shoun Maru No 8, of Japanese registry, tied up at the special use pier of the port of Saigon and took on nearly 1,000 tons of peanut oil. The oil was pumped into the ship quickly and efficiently. Only 24 hours passed between the time the loading was completed and the completion of all paperwork, as stipulated by the contract signed by a branch of the Industrial and Food Products Export-Import General Corporation (Vinalimex Tp Ho Chi Minh) and the Volmore Corporation in Hong Kong.

That export shipment began a new way to sell and deliver Vietnamese vegetable oil.

The delivery of vegetable oil by means of specialized ships greatly reduces expenses for barrels, transportation, cargo handling, etc. Most important, it is in accord with the prevalent method in the world for buying and selling large shipments of vegetable oil. The specialized pier used to load vegetable oil in bulk form, managed by the port of Saigon, is located at the Nha Be Oil Factory. Because it realized the great developmental capability of coconut oil and peanut oil exports, and clearly realizing the disadvantage of exporting oil in barrels, the Vegetable Oil Federation invested capital, materials, and manpower to improve and build a system of storage tanks, pipe lines, a pier, and a 1,600 meter-long road from the highway to the factory.

5616
CSO: 4209/854

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS BY YOUTH UNION EXAMINED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by Huu Tai and Vinh Kim: "What Did the Youth Union Contribute to the Party in the Self-Criticism and Criticism Campaign?"]

[Text] The Youth Union chapters of the precincts and districts have essentially completed their self-criticism and criticism, and have contributed to the self-criticism reports of the precinct and district party organizations. In the school sector, because the party committees of the schools were slow in carrying out self-criticism, only 7 of 44 school Youth Union units have organized the contributing of opinions on party building.

In addition to some subprecincts which have made extensive arrangements for the Youth Union cadres, Youth Union members, and Youths of the precinct party organizations and subprecinct party committees (such as subprecincts 3, 4, 13, and 16 in Tan Binh Precinct; subprecincts 3, 4, 6, and 10 in Precinct 11; subprecincts 16 and 12 in Precinct 5 subprecincts 6 and 16 in Precinct 5; subprecincts 6 and 16 in Precinct 6, etc.). In nearly all of the other units only the key Youth Union cadres and the secretaries of the basic-level Youth Union chapters contributed opinions on party building.

In general, although the members of the basic-level Youth Union chapters have confidence in the party, boldly exposed the deficiencies the local party organization in its leadership of the Youth Union, and analyzed the irrationalities in the party's leadership mechanism vis-a-vis the Youth Union, while at the same time recommending to the party measures to increase the effectiveness of Youth Union activities, etc., they have not met the requirements set for the present political campaign.

The Role and Strength of the Collective Not Yet Evident

It is evident that in nearly all meetings held to contribute opinions about party building, from meetings in which the secretaries of basic-level Youth Union chapters contribute opinions to the precinct or district party organizations to internal meetings of the Youth Union chapters to contribute opinions to the local party organizations, the opinions contributed are usually individual opinions arising from the thoughts and concerns of Youth Union cadres in the course of their actual work. During many meetings, only a

few people express opinions, while the others only listen and agree. There are people who bravely struggle against such negative phenomena of seeking revenge against and bullying the local masses, but ordinarily the opinions directly affect them personally, such as the cases of Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy in Subprecinct 26, Binh Thanh Precinct, and Tran Thi Thanh Thuy, of Phu Nhuan Precinct.

It is very rare that the group struggles collectively.

Ordinarily, in meetings held to contribute opinions on party building the operational procedure of many basic Youth Union Chapters is for the executive committee to read the self-criticism reports of the party committee and the party branch committee, after which the participants express their opinions. The opinions are included in a report submitted to the party committee, after which the matter is considered as closed. It is very rare that the executive committee of the basic Youth Union chapter takes the initiative of studying the self-criticism report of the party committee in advance, relate it to the actual situation, reach agreement on a common evaluation, and discuss ways to contribute opinions in order to meet requirements.

Youth Union Cadres Are Not Yet As Bold As Youth Union Members

That is a common characteristic of the meetings held to contribute opinions on party building. Nearly all of the Youth Union cadres, especially those of the precinct Youth Union chapters, stress recommendations and seldom do the opinions expose or criticize. On the other hand, the basic-level Youth Union cadres and members are bolder and dare directly criticize negative phenomena, speak frankly name name names, and are not timid or afraid. In Precinct 1, during a meeting to contribute opinions to the precinct party committee, the cadres of the precinct Youth Union chapter only brought up the requirement of creating material conditions for Youth Union activity, the precinct Youth Union chapter's headquarters, a vehicle for teenagers. At most they only dared admonish the precinct party chapter to pay attention to closely monitoring and leading the Youth Union movement. Meanwhile, the members and cadres of the basic Youth Union chapters directly criticized comrades who were still bureaucratic and aloof from the masses, comrades who were still self-seeking, etc.

In that regard, it may be that the Youth Union cadres are usually more circumspect and know how to express opinions at the right and in the right place, but there are also those who are still indulgent, are afraid of being retaliated against, or "calculate" more closely. In fact, in many places, after contributing opinions the Youth Union cadres were invited by the local chapter to "explain things."

Opinions Do Not Yet Focus on Central Concerns

The most widespread situation is that nearly all Youth Union cadres and members only see the negative acts of party members and leadership cadres, see that the party does not pay adequate attention to leading the Youth union, etc., but do not bring up the strengths and weaknesses of the basic-level party committee, and have not deeply analyzed the reasons for the negative

phenomena and irrationalities in the mechanism, and do not contribute opinions to the party about renovating the mechanism. Furthermore, on the party of the Youth Union, the ratio of Youth Union members and cadres participating in party building and the ratio expressing opinions are very low. In the city as a whole the Youth Union mobilized only 50 percent of the Youth Union cadres and members to participate in party building, only 10 percent of whom expressed opinions. In Binh Chanh village, Binh Chanh District, the Youth Union mobilized 100 Youth Union cadres to attend a meeting to contribute opinions to the village party committee, but only 40 cadres attended and only 3 of them contributed opinions!

There are many reasons for the weaknesses and deficiencies of the Youth Union organization in party building, as discussed above. First of all, the consciousness of the Youth Union organizations is not high and their outlook is not broad. For that reason, investment in party building is still limited. also for that reason, a considerable number of places have been half-hearted and superficial in organizing the contributing of opinions on party building, and are usually passive. They wait for the party committee to send its self-criticism report before reading it so that the youths can contribute opinions. Another reason is that the municipal Youth Union chapter carried out two major tasks at once--it carried out self-criticism within the Youth Union while participating in party building--but lacked timely investment and guidance. In its party building work, not until 17 July did the municipal Youth Union chapter issue a guidance document, although the basic Youth Union chapters began to carry out that work at the beginning of the month.

Furthermore, it is necessary to mention another reason for the limited results attained in contributing to party building: the local party organization have not created conditions for the Youth Union to contribute constructive opinions.

The Real Effectiveness of Youth Union Party Building Activities

Although they were still confused in implementation and encountered many other limitations in those activities, the results attained by Youth Union chapters participating in party building were very notable.

First of all, the Youth Union chapters at all levels posed for the Party such questions as the activity mechanism of the Youth Union and Vanguard Teenagers in the various sectors, and the irrationalities in manifesting the role of the Youth Union and in coordinating with the sectors to implement their political missions.

Also in the course of the Youth Union's participation of in party building, the party committees of a number of precincts underwent an immediate transformation in their leadership of the Youth Union. The party committee of Binh Thanh Precinct studied the situation of Youth Union work at the subprecinct level and approved two lists of subprecinct Youth union cadres in order to be able to carry out the youth work at the basic level. Then Binh Thanh Precinct and Precinct 3 also fulfilled that requirement. The party committee of Binh Thanh Precinct also made the Youth Union a member and

permitted it to participate in the meetings of the precinct party committee and people's committee.

The secretaries of the subprecinct Youth Union chapters were brought into the personnel structure of the party committee echelon. At the same time the precinct took many steps to solve problems regarding the Youth Union's operational expenses, showing concern with the role of the Youth Union, Precinct 1 presented a party development plan to the secretaries of subprecinct Youth Union chapters and stipulated that the party committees must obtain the opinions of the basic Youth Union chapters in organizing self-criticism. Many other precincts and districts underwent transformations in their leadership of the Youth Union immediately after the campaign for the Youth Union to participate in party building.

At present, the remaining basic Youth Union chapters are continuing that activity campaign. We hope that the party committee echelons will create conditions for the Youth Union to contribute its pure voice to party building, and so that the Youth Union cadres and members can have an opportunity to prove their belief in the party and demonstrate the courage and understanding of youths.

5616

CSO: 4209/835

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

RESIDENTS SEVERELY CRITICIZE VILLAGE PARTY COMMITTEE

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 25 Jul 86 pp 1, 7

[Article by P.V. (reporter): "Observing the Self-Criticism and Criticism Drive: Tan Thuan Village Still Has Many Deficiencies Requiring Swift Resolution"]

[Text] The Tan Thuan Village Party Committee is one of two basic party units chosen by the Nha Be District Party Committee (in Ho Chi Minh City) to serve as points for drawing experience in supervising self-criticism and acquiring the constructive opinions contributed by the masses. Before nearly 200 representatives of mass organizations, basic small industry and handicraft units, agricultural cooperatives and production collectives, hamlet people's committees and neighborhood teams, the Tan Thuan Village Party Committee conducted a self-review of the following primary themes:

Concerning the strong points: a highly unanimous solidarity was maintained in daring to think, daring to act and listening to the opinions of the masses; boldly accepting shortcomings for correction and rectification; leading in attaining and surpassing military draft norms; properly organizing health care and disease prevention and control for the people; and shifting three rice production collectives to specialized rush raising; developing economic effectiveness and proving that the policy of implementing a model of coordinating the rice crop between agriculture and small industry and handicraft was correct. During its term, the party committee has led in the establishment of eight cooperatives and eight small industry and handicraft production cooperation teams, providing stable work for nearly 1,000 laborers, a great effort.

Concerning shortcomings, the party committee review was severe in presenting deficiencies in the supervision and leadership of transformation work, construction, and caring for the lives of the people. Close contact has not been maintained with industrial, trade and credit activities in the agricultural cooperatives and production collectives. In the construction and development of a multicrop rice area, because supervision has not been concentrated and resolution has been lacking, despite the experience gained in TD7, the multicrop area of villages during the past few years has not appreciably increased and output is still unsettled. Due to a lack of close supervision in field reallocation, many negative incidents occurred, leading to a need to remeasure and redive the land, causing a loss of confidence among the people. On the other hand, by concentrating only on the supervision of rice production and not giving concern to the supervision of other trade sectors and family economy, the living standards of the collective farmer are still lower than the individual farmer. The

leadership in collecting agricultural taxes during 1985 was not good and 15 tons of tax rice are still owed to the state. Because the small industry and handicraft field was neglected, many production potentials are still developing slowly and output is low; and no initiative has been taken to arrange and provide jobs for the people at a time in which the village still has nearly 900 unemployed persons. A proper level of concern has not been given to building and strengthening local administration and mass organizations; and many hamlet committees and neighborhood teams engage in no activity. Party development is not achieving norms.

Following the Party Committee review report, the representatives frankly presented additional deficiencies of the Party Committee and individual key cadres of the village.

A Youth Union representative contributed the opinion that the key cadres of the village were all enthusiastic in their work but many lacked the ability and cultural standards to satisfy their leadership mission. Therefore, young cadres with ability and standards must replace those aged cadres with weak health and leadership abilities before the multifaceted retardation in the local area can be alleviated. In agricultural transformation, the Party Committee gave a blank-check contract to the man in charge of village agriculture, an individual lacking in revolutionary quality, degenerate and tempted by material things, and a previous army deserter who was still trained and admitted to the party and recommended for the village people's committee, creating many complexities in field allocation. Although the matters above were reported, the Party Committee did not strictly handle them, causing a loss of confidence in the party among the masses. On the other hand, the Party Committee was lax in leadership of mass organizations, party development was not precisely in accordance with the objective, and attention was not given to development in the production area with expressions of individualism and saving face occurring. For example: the Party Committee Secretary forced the Village Youth Union Headquarters to recommend his daughter for entry to the party. The work styles of many key cadres lack strictness and are still bureaucratic, arrogant and threatening to the masses.

A representative of the small industry and handicrafts sector contributed the opinion that small industry and handicraft production was retarded because the village was assigning responsible cadres lacking in leadership ability. Thus, these cadres in charge must be swiftly replaced; on the other hand, more concern must also be given to party development in this field.

A retired cadre contributed some additional opinions: although the village has defined the economic structure, it is still confused in achievement leadership and organization dealing with small industry and handicraft production. Actually, small industry and handicraft production is still primarily spontaneous. Because the marketing cooperative has not properly defined a service objective, there is only a pursuit of business income.

Many representatives analyzed the bureaucratic style of the village Party Committee and administration as still fairly severe with many tasks set forth but not achieved or with the work not thoroughly supervised such as the construction of a women's washroom, installation of a public water hydrant, etc.

The straightforwardly presented opinions above prove the confidence of the masses in the village Party Committee and administration. At the same time, they are also problems the masses are hoping that the party committee and administrative echelons of Tan Thuan Village will swiftly overcome and correct.

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CSO: 4209/39

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

SHORTCOMINGS OF VILLAGE CADRES CORRECTED

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Jul 86 p 3

[Article: "Party Organization in Kim Quan Corrects Shortcomings"]

[Text] Kim Quan is a primary party organization which ranks among the good ones in Thach That District (Hanoi). Over the past few years, agricultural production has progressed and achieved a yearly output of 66 quintals of paddy per hectare. Industrial crops, such as peanuts and tobacco, have developed fairly well. The building of materials and technical bases, schools, and kindergartens has been considered an important task.

Notwithstanding such progress, during the current self-criticism and criticism campaign, the Kim Quan party organization has peered at the truth and analyzed its own weaknesses and shortcomings--especially the ethics and leadership manners of key cadres in this village.

The most outstanding shortcoming of Kim Quan was the protracted internal disunity of the party committee, chapters, and organization. First and foremost, there was factionalism between the party committee secretary and village people's committee chairman. Once during a meeting, both the secretary and the chairman refused to yield ground and ended up shouting at each other. In another session, a resolution was put forward by the attendance and accepted by the party committee secretary but the village chairman interrupted the meeting and later on refused to implement the resolution and even ordered his close subordinates to counteract it. Many village affairs were carried out in an atmosphere where the orders issued conflicted with one another. Consequently, despite its large membership, the party organization was weak because many cadres and party members who held key positions deviated seriously in matters of ethics and in their way of life.

The party committee secretary failed to act as the center of internal unity. Disdaining collective opinion on many affairs, the village chairman made blunders, the most serious of which was unilaterally allotting additional land to 41 families for house construction and tolerating a group of persons who illegally used public land to build brick kilns. For several major local projects, such as the building of a bridge over the Tich River, income and expenditures were not published clearly, which stirred up perplexity and suspicion among the masses. Concerning leadership, violations of the

democratic centralist principle as well as breaches of discipline by many party members were not dealt with promptly and strictly. The internal disunity of the party committee and its key cadres' infringement of the policy led to bad consequences in many respects. Deprived of their peace of mind and not knowing whom to trust, the masses and party members in the village were often perplexed and worried about the complex situation in this locality.

During the recent self-criticism and criticism sessions, party members clearly realized their own shortcomings and frankly voiced their views about party committee secretary Do Quang Sang because he neglected party-building activities, tolerated protracted internal disunity, and exercised leadership while omitting the need for control, showing a rightist tendency, and shunning responsibility, and because he allowed subordinates to contravene principles in allotting land and building brick kilns and disregarded substantial losses and the deterioration of collective property. Another warning was issued to Pham Huu Vy, member of the village party committee's standing committee and vice chairman of the village people's committee, because he relaxed social management, took advantage of his function and power in conjunction with the village chairman to allot land contrary to principles, and displayed a low organizational and disciplinary spirit. Nguyen Van On, member of the village party committee and deputy director of the cooperative in charge of finance, also received a warning because he lacked a sense of responsibility, loosened economic management, ratified expenditures contrary to principles, and failed to exercise control so that subordinates could take advantage of this shortcoming to take nitrate fertilizer from the cooperative and sell it on the free market. Ngo Van Hao, member of the village party committee and deputy director of the agricultural cooperative, and Can Ngoc Hanh, member of the village party committee and commander of the village unit, were reprimanded for their lack of responsibility and their failure to participate actively in the struggle against longstanding negative practices in their village.

The Kim Quan Village party and people's committees also set forth some urgent measures to deal with irrational land allotments and illegal land encroachments. The village published an order forbidding individuals and collectives to use land contrary to the promulgated principles and drew up a plan to collect immediately from 30 to 50 percent of old debts as well as the arrears of the 1986 spring agricultural products and to fulfill the grain procurement norm by 16 July.

Brick kilns which encroached on farmland and dike footage have been ordered to stop their activities immediately and for good. Brick kilns which have been authorized to operate shall pay taxes in full, and the village authorities have the duty to control and manage the products of these kilns to prevent potentially negative practices.

The party committee has fixed a deadline for correcting shortcomings and publishing the results for the villagers' information.

9332/12851
CSO: 4209/801

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

READER LAMENTS DECLINE IN QUALITY OF PARTY MEMBERS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Aug 86 p 1

[Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column: "What Can Be Done So That Today's Party Members Can Be As Loved and Respected As Those During the Period of Secret Activity"]

[Text] In the past, party members were truly outstanding. They were people who loved their country and the people, and knew danger, jail, sacrifice, and hardships, but still pitched in, worked shoulder-to-shoulder with the people, dared to think and do, and determined the life or death, honor or shame, of an entire nation.

Today, I don't understand why, although party members have attended meetings and contributed opinions, bureaucratism, subsidies, and other negative phenomena have continued for 10 years. Do the party members still listen to the aspirations of the people? How can there occur such unjust stories as that of Pham Kim Ngoc. I think that perhaps some people have entered the party for improper motives.

I also know that at present a number of good party members who are upset over the improper acts of their comrades. But is that good enough? How must they act in order to be worthy of the love and respect of the people, as were the party members during the period of secret activity?

With regard to the Trade Union organization, I would also like to express a modest opinion: I know that in the past there had to be a Trade Union because bosses exploited the workers, so that workers had to have an organization to protect their rights. Today, the Trade Union chapters are usually made up of people who do not dare decide matters within their responsibility, but usually solicit the opinions of the heads.

Another matter within the sphere of education:

I noted that a long time ago the newspaper TUOI TRE brought up the matter of the evaluation of skilled teachers of schools not being realistic. I would like to contribute the following opinions:

In the education sector, everyone knows that the time stipulated for a classroom session is too brief in comparison to the curriculum and lecture contents, so teachers must teach their students a lesson two or three times before teaching a "good classroom session" or "skilled classroom session" in the presence of leadership cadres. Adults understand the contradiction between the time and contents of a classroom session, so everyone regards teaching the students in advance as something that is taken for granted, and is not concerned with the adverse effects on students:

The students must memorize the lesson like a parrot so that without thinking they can rapidly respond to the difficult questions posed by the teachers. That violates the principle that teaching must bring out the creativity and independence in the students' thinking.

The teachers must admonish the students to concentrate on only one lesson so that when the classroom session was monitored they would perform well and be complimented. Thus they inintentionally set a bad example and lack truthfulness in their study.

During the summer vacation periods, fourth grade teachers who want to be rated as skilled must invite good fifth grade students who are about to be promoted to the sixth grade to sit in their classes to take skilled teacher tests. Some people also borrow students from the gifted classes to participate in the "story telling" part of the test. That causes me to think of a drama shown on TV last month: the director forced an old Level 5 worker to grow long hair, wear stylish clothes, and walk like a young person so that he could participate in a young skilled worker test restricted to Level 4 workers. Is it that the education sector has created such "directors who lack truthfulness?"

If those tricks continue to spread and multiply all over, what will the quality of our education be?

5616

CSO: 4209/854

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

READER COMMENTS ON BANK SECTOR'S OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Jul 86 pp 1, 4

[Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column: "On the Operational Structure of the Bank"]

[Text] In its 22 June 1986 issue (page 3), the newspaper NHAN DAN published a poem titled "Bank," which included the following passage:

"You, Miss, are a bank cadre
Who helps the enterprises do business
And approve of many expenditures,
Provided that the enterprises please you.
The Bank benefits the nation and the people,
But you emphasize your own role."

In all fairness, all cadres and bank branches are not like that. But that has been a widespread phenomenon for a long time, and at times is even more negative. But only does that phenomenon exist, and what is the root of the problem.

The centralized bureaucratic structure of the bank (including the organizational mechanism and the management mechanism) regard the workers and the production-commercial organs as receiving favors, and not as the subjects of management. That is the root of all negative matters.

The operational charter of the bank regards the production and commercial units as objects which the bank must control and manage, not as the subjects of management. They do not have to be served by the bank, although it is camouflaged under the words "serving, and affecting the implementation of, the lines and policies of the party and state."

In the banking professional schools and even in the economic schools (finance, planning, statistics, home trade, foreign trade, etc.), there are taught the functions, missions, three central aspects, and the five relationships between the bank and the enterprises, among which there the matter of control stands out like a miracle which permeates the whole process of the bank's activity: control when lending, control when paying, control when withdrawing cash, control of the financial activities and economic contracts, and finally, the

verification of plan fulfillment and withdrawals from the three funds. It may be said that all aspects of the activities of the units having to do with money must come under the control of the bank. That understanding has been passed along and has thus become a "custom" among banking cadres and workers. Therefore, the banks, with their many professional functions, have become places which pressure and coerce their customers. Paternalism in bestowing favors on the units is regarded as a privilege of some banking cadres and personnel. Of course, in order to receive a favor, the units must know how to "scratch each other's backs," as in the case of Ngo Xuan Thiem and Ngo Tan Thanh, of the Precinct 11 Bank, on whom the newspaper SAIGON GIAI PHONG reported on 26 June 1986.

The bank leadership cadres, from the directors of provincial and municipalities on down, who commit mistakes, deficiencies, or negative acts, may be disciplined only by the person who appointed that person: the General Director of the Central Bank. Document No 73/NH/CP, dated 28 March 1986, states that in the event that leadership cadres from the deputy directors of provincial and municipal banks down "clearly make mistakes which adversely affect guidance and management, the directors of provincial and municipal bank branches are authorized to terminate the service of such cadres, appoint people to temporarily replace them, and report immediately to the Central State Bank so that it can make an official decision. If the Central Bank confirms the inaccuracy of the decision of the branch bank director, the Central Bank will issue a decision negating that of the director, who bears full responsibility for his incorrect decision." Thus the director has practically no authority outside the right to report to the General Director. The Municipal Party Committee and People's Committee may decide on assigning, appointing, or dismissing the directors of the municipal services, sections, and sectors, but may not appoint or dismiss the deputy director of a precinct or district bank, such as in the case of the two deputy directors of the Precinct 11 Bank (SAIGON GIAI PHONG, 26 June 1986, p. 3).

But are the mistakes of the banking cadres, workers, and civil servants with regard to moral quality, virtue, and work style the reasons why the nation's financial-monetary situation has become difficult? In fact, they are merely the inevitable results of the banking sector's bureaucratic centralism mechanism. The outstanding weakness and deficiency of the banking sector is that investment has lacked economic effectiveness. That is one of the reasons why the increase in the volume of money in circulation, for the banking sector has dogmatically and mechanically concentrated on its professional activities in accordance with an outmoded, static mechanism, and has not promptly grasped the difficulties and changes in the economy or sought the close leadership and support of the governmental administration at the same echelon, or sought the close cooperation of the national economic sectors.

The bureaucratic centralism, mechanism has expropriated the service function of the banking sector and assigned it the right to exercise strict control in order to subsidize, and lessened its effectiveness as a tool of the party, the state, and the people.

In changing over from the administrative-subsidizing system to socialist commerce the banking sector has had much confusion, has carried out many half-

way, patchwork reforms, and has been reluctant to take risks because its foundation in the past was small-scale production. Therefore, the more bureaucratic centralism, there is in the banking sector the more the right of financial autonomy of the production and commercial units is restricted. Faced with the convergence of prices, salaries, and money, because it had an outmoded mechanism and a passive, narrow professional level, the banking sector could not establish for itself or the economy a developmental tendency that is appropriate to the situation and the law. In other words, by means of three monetary, credits, and settlement centers within the bureaucratic centralism mechanism, the banking sector has not created a single bright, warm ray of life in a dawn in which there is still much fog with regard to prices, salaries, and money. Therefore, the banking sector has lost its glorious halo (as a general economic organ, the nerve center of the economy, and an economic lever), has lost its splendid sacred image (as an organ which has a monopoly in printing money for the economy), and is now only a treasurer who has lost prestige (who does not have sufficient money to supply the economy).

Since 1975 the bank's General Director has been changed many times, but economic-social life continues to demand the changing of both the bank's organizational mechanism and its management mechanism.

The nation's economic situation shows that no ministry or sector can single-handedly create, all at once, the strength to put the economic wheels in motion. There also must be an all-round transformation by the ministries and sectors at the central and local levels and among the localities. Therefore, I would like to make the following recommendations:

1. That there be set up at the municipal level a Bank Management Council made up of representatives of the party (the municipal party committee), and representatives of the governmental administration, the People's Council, the combined organs (financial, banking, price, planning, statistics, labor, etc.), the production and commercial organs (home trade, foreign trade, communications and transportation, materials supply, industry, small industry and handicrafts, services, etc.). The Municipal Bank Management Council will, on the basis of the city's political missions and economic-social norms, determine the bank's direction, activities, and policies. It will create a high degree of unanimity and effectiveness with regard to such matters as where and how to raise capital and combine domestic and foreign, how to distribute the capital that is raised to achieve economic effectiveness, and how to create conditions to support monetary circulation by means of exporting and importing. The production plan assigned the city must be accompanied by materials and capital plans. The term of investment, economic effectiveness, and equal exchange and support between the central and local economies must be clearly stated and included in state plans. There must be regular meetings to review the implementation of policies, and at the same time there must be information about both the Central Bank and the Council of Ministers. The Bank Management Council will have the right to recommend to the Municipal People's Committee the dismissal of the director of the Municipal Bank if there is failure to fulfill missions assigned by the Council. The newly appointed director must be a person elected by the bank cadres, workers, and civil servants. The Council will consider and approve the appointment and recommend that the Municipal People's Committee give its approval. The bank's

charter must be examined by the Council, which must recommend changes so that they can be appropriate to the economic -social activities, which are continually changing.

2. Every 3 or 6 months the bank leadership and cadres, workers, and civil servants must carry out self-criticism in the presence of customers, with representatives of the Bank Management Council in attendance. The customers' criticisms of the bank cadres, workers, and civil servants must be corrected immediately. Good deeds must be appropriately rewarded, and people with deficiencies must be criticized, warned, transferred, fired, or prosecuted (if there has been a criminal violation).

3. The specialized bank cadres should not assigned fixed specialized tasks to the units. Such assignments must be regularly changed and their must be cross control.

4. It is necessary to decorate the places of work of the municipal bank system (and advertise, if necessary), and carry out the slogan, "warm greeting, all-out assistance, and prompt and accurate handling of professional work. The bank cadres, workers, and civil servants must be encouraged to work in accordance with that slogan. The bank's charter must be printed in the form of handbooks and distributed to all bank cadres, workers, and civil servants and to customers so that there can be joint control in their implementation.

Le Thi Be Ba
(Kien Thiet Hamlet,
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5616
CSO: 4209/833

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

SUBSIDIES HAMPER AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 25 Jul 86 p 1

[Unattributed article: "Abolishing Subsidies in Agricultural Cooperatives"]

[Text] During the past 5 years, the new contract mechanism in agricultural cooperatives has created a motive force stimulating the laborer to promote production. In an evaluation of this issue, a (draft) resolution of the Political Bureau on ensuring the production and business autonomy of basic level units noted: "Thanks to the achievement of product contracts, agricultural cooperatives have actively applied technical advances to production and made efforts to achieve self-equilibrium from many sources to advance production, first of all grain production, at a fairly rapid rate and to contribute much more grain and commodity agricultural products to the state."

However, one problem has risen in that since product contracting was initiated, annual production has regularly increased over the previous year but the manday value of the cooperative, the income of the cooperative member from the collective economy and the capital accumulation of the cooperative have stalled and in some places declined. Therefore, producer enthusiasm has been poor with some cooperative members turning in part of their contract fields although the average area per individual is extremely low. This is primarily the result of a long period in which the production autonomy of cooperatives was not respected: the management ability and accounting quality of cooperatives are still low and especially, subsidization in cooperatives is extremely severe, causing them to become more a social relief than an economic organization. Subsidization occurs under many forms. There is the sale of agricultural products to the state at a price lower than the production cost; technical material shipping and receiving contracts not precisely on schedule that create obstacles for production; and large depletion rates that cause the value of material introduced to production to increase by 25 to 30 percent over the state purchase price. There is subsidization in the mobilization of compulsory labor. A clear point is that the cooperatives must subsidize the activities of administrative and mass organizations in the village; subsidize the distribution of grain to policy recipients and a number of cooperative members; subsidize the allowances for cadre ranks indirectly engaged in burdensome work, etc.

Past actual practice has shown that cooperatives that know how to be dynamic in production and business and escape to a situation of self-sufficiency have all risen strongly; the capital accumulation of the collective and the income of the cooperative member have both enjoyed a fair increase. This must be considered as an starting point for abolishing subsidies in the cooperative. In the

5-year (1986-1990) plan, in conjunction with increasing the production forces of agriculture, it is necessary to create a new motive force from within the cooperative; abolishing subsidies to swiftly increase the collective economy, the capital accumulation of the cooperative, and the income of the producer. First of all, material supply and service agencies must sign equal price and equitable contracts; and supply materials from the very beginning of the season. For those agricultural products with many grades and many prices, requisitioning and purchasing agencies must reduce the number to avoid arbitrary grading and pricing. Within the cooperative, the situation of overlapping grain regulation must be abolished. Grain sales prices for recipients must be unified in accordance with the cooperative internal consumption price. Abolish miscellaneous non-contract man-days. Abolish the use of cooperative products for preferential sale to a number of recipients with the cooperative taking the loss. However, the basic and long-term problem is to achieve an objective of unceasingly expanding production and business. Cooperatives must have business autonomy and strongly develop the composite strength of the collective economy, family economy and the support of state-operated economy. Conditions must be created to closely connect production with product processing, circulation and consumption. Emphasize the development of joint enterprise and association relations, unceasingly introduce technical advances to production, and exploit the economic potential of the basic level. Within the district, swiftly organize and revamp technical service agencies to ensure the best support for production. Further raise the quality of cooperative management. Continue to perfect product contracting. Achieve synchronized contracting in all production sectors first of all and ensure firm coordination between sectors. Raise the organization and direction capabilities of management cadres and resolutely overcome a situation of laxity and nonspecific contracts. In the distribution mechanism, wage payment must follow plan man-day value. Products distributed within the cooperative must be calculated in accordance with the internal consumption price, ensuring that the cooperative makes a profit of 20 to 30 percent over production costs.

The close connection of subsidy abolishment with production and business expansion has become an urgent problem in the agricultural cooperative. It demands a renewal of state management organization and policy, and of the relationship between the cooperative and the sectors, ensuring the nature of the agricultural cooperative as a socialist collective economic unit unceasingly developing production and business to achieve high productivity, quality and effectiveness in order to improve the life of the cooperative member, to strengthen the force of the cooperative and to fulfill state obligations.

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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

BEN TRE LIVESTOCK HERD SERIOUSLY DECLINING

Hanoi NONG NGHIEP in Vietnamese 25 Jul 86 p 6

[Article by Nguyen Tuan, Ben Tre: "Why is the Ben Tre Domestic Animal Herd Continuing To Decline?"]

[Text] During the past several years, Ben Tre has won great and total success in every aspect, especially in grain production. Total grain output and the standard of living of the people have increased annually. However, development of the domestic animal herd, especially the hog herd, is at a "moderate" level in danger of reduction and imbalance. During the first few months of 1986, this "moderate" level was not maintained, a clear reduction occurred, and in all three state-operated, collective and family areas, the size of the hog herd dropped.

According to investigative data of the Statistical Branch, the total hog herd on 1 April 1986 stood at 149,465 head, a reduction of 4,057 head compared with the 1 January 1986 level. The Statistical Branch observed that if effective measures to maintain the hog herd were not taken, it would probably continue to decline.

Why has the hog herd declined in such a manner?

First of all, it is due to the effect of prices; breeder animals and livestock feed sources are not assured and prices have risen steeply while the purchase price of hogs has increased slowly, causing the stock raiser to lose peace of mind. Of the 215,255 agricultural production households, only half raise hogs. The number of production collectives and cooperatives with stock raising is also extremely small (204 of 1,953 units). Outside of the rice crop, every district has the individual strength to develop the raising of subsidiary food crops (corn, potatoes and manioc) to increase the feed source and resolve domestic animal feed difficulties. Nevertheless, this possibility has not been properly exploited. Not one locality has set aside 10 to 15 percent of the land or total grain output for stock raising. At a time in which the livestock feed enterprises are not supplying in sufficient amounts, various types of by-products from agriculture (rice, coconuts, sugarcane, fish, etc.) are being wastefully discarded. Agricultural by-products are very abundant and conditions exist for the livestock feed plants to operate to full capacity but because purchasing, contracting and consignment lack synchronization, the feed supplies are insufficient in both quantity and quality and the prices are high, creating difficulties for stock raising development.

To increase the number of hogs, it is necessary first to calculate the sow herd. On 1 January 1986, sows accounted for 9.2 percent of the total herd but after only 3 months (1 April 1986), the sow herd had dropped to 8.9 percent. These figures indicate that the sow herd is still not receiving development emphasis and its proportion is extremely small compared with the total herd. The hog herd has become unbalanced. State-operated hog breeding farms since 1985 have not supplied sufficient breeder animals and the prices are extremely high. This is a great difficulty in developing the hog herd.

Hog herd development has also been staggered by irrational purchasing policies and prices, payment formulas and circulation organization. Besides that, disease and sickness have also adversely affected hog herd development. During the first months of 1986, the number of hogs killed by disease and sickness rose to 2,000 head. In some scattered districts, all the hogs are afflicted with disease and sickness, especially in Binh Dai District, and including the Long Hoa hog breeding farm.

The buffalo and cattle herd of Ben Tre is also on the decline. On 1 April 1986, there was a reduction of 3.84 percent or 979 head compared with the level on 1 October 1985. Reductions occurred in every district, most of all in Binh Dai with a reduction reaching 11.22 percent, equivalent to 726 head. Worthy of attention is that an extremely large reduction has occurred in the draft buffalo herd, up to 8.23 percent, greatest of all in Cho Lach (20.9 percent) and Binh Dai (17.2 percent).

The cattle herd has also declined but not as much as buffaloes: 2.2 percent. The draft cattle herd alone has declined by up to 4.5 percent. The greatest reduction in the cattle herd has occurred in Chau Thanh with 9.9 percent and Binh Dai with 8.9 percent. The greatest draft cattle reduction was in Mo Cay with 15.4 percent and Thach Phu with 7.1 percent.

The primary reason for the buffalo and cattle herd reduction has been a lack of firm buffalo and cattle management allowing indiscriminate butchering to rise. Disease and sickness have advanced and methods of coping with them have been entirely passive, resulting in serious losses in draft power. The draft buffalo and cattle herd has also been partially reduced by elimination but the primary reason is still indiscriminate butchering. This situation if not promptly halted will lead to the damaging consequence of adversely affecting production and life for a long period of time because the job of supplementing and restoring the buffalo and cattle herd has many times the difficulties of the hog herd.

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AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

HO CHI MINH CITY AREA CULTIVATES SHRIMP FOR EXPORT

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 8 Aug 86 p 2

[Article by Phuoc Sanh: "Cultivating Shrimp for Export Rapidly Developing"]

[Text] The natural conditions (weather, the aquatic environment, sources of breeding stock and feed, etc.) in our city are quite favorable for many kinds of economically valuable crustaceans, such as big shrimp, brown shrimp, blue lobsters, etc., to develop, especially since we restored more than 25,000 hectares of mangrove forests in Duyen Hai. Since 1983, when the Municipal Party Committee issued a resolution, the movement to cultivate shrimp has developed rapidly. In 1984 the shrimp-cultivation area amounted to 2,700 hectares and the output was 300 tons. In 1985 the area increased to nearly 4,000 hectares and the output to 450 tons (in 1980, when the movement began, the shrimp-cultivation area was only 130 hectares). Of the shrimp produced, big shrimp accounted for the largest share (37 to 45 percent) and brown shrimp account for 20 to 30 percent.

Most of the municipality's shrimp-cultivation area is in Duyen Hai. As of March 1986 the state farms in the district had zoned nearly 1,700 hectares. According to combined data of six state farms in precincts 3, 6, 8, and 11, Tan Binh, Phu Nhuan, as of May 1986 total output amounted to 268.5 tons, of which 152 tons were exported. Those units paid into the budget nearly 1 million dong and received more than 120,000 dong in foreign exchange to achieve expanded reproduction. In 1983 the Precinct 11 state farm harvested 2.9 tons of shrimp for export, 14 tons in 1984, and 30 tons in 1985. The average income of workers indirectly involved was 300 dong a month, and that of those directly involved was 900 dong a month. Members of the aquatic products teams received 1,200 dong.

Every year the Precinct 8 state farm attains its outplan plan and makes payments to the budget. The state farm borrowed 2.8 million dong from the bank for capital construction and repaid the loan in 1985. This year the state farm accepted a plan to produce 30 tons of aquatic products, including 4.7 tons of shrimp for export. During the first 6 months of the year (before the main season), 4.7 tons of shrimp were exported. Thanks to combined production and commerce, by the end of June the Precinct 8 state farm had paid into the budget 1 million dong (the plan called for 350,000 dong). It is estimated that during the last 6 months of the year it will pay an additional

500,000 dong. Not including meal and other allowances, in July the average income of each cadre, worker, an civil servant was 1,000 dong (the state farm carried out the contracting of products, salaries, welfare funds, facilities, etc.). Members of aquatic products teams received a maximum of 2,100 dong and a minimum of 1,000 dong. The students of the Labor Education School who participated in production at the state farm earn 300 to 500 dong every month in addition to the amount paid them by the state.

Duyen Hai District has set up a cooperative and three collectives to raise shrimp. Including the shrimp-cultivation areas of 800 dong families, the total area increased to 1,600 hectares and the average annual productivity is 0.3 to 0.5 tons per hectare. Unit 1 of the Hoa Hiep cooperative in Long Hoa village, which in the past operated at a loss, in 1982 produced 250 to 300 kilos of shrimp per hectare and produced 350 kilos in 1984-85. During the first 6 months of 1986, on 5 hectares Unit 1 harvested 600 kilos of export shrimp (in May and June it harvested 400 kilos). In addition to cultivating shrimp, Unit 1 also produces salt and produced 50 to 80 tons of it between 1983 and 1985. The unit members earn 150 dong a day.

In 1985 the Hoa Hiep cooperative and the people in the hamlet produced 162.6 tons of shrimp, 60 to 70 percent of which met export standards.

Long Thoi village, one of the five agricultural villages in Nha Be District, last year successfully experimented with cultivating shrimp in rice paddies. On an area of 40 hectares, within a period of 3 months of shrimping Collective 13 harvested 900 kilos, 80 percent of which were export-quality shrimp (mainly brown shrimp).

In Thu Duc, in 1985 the district shrimp farm improved 10 ponds and produced blue lobsters on a trial basis on an area of 6,000 square meters. Over a period of 4 months it harvested more than 600 kilos of export shrimp. In all, the seasonal yield was 1 ton per hectare. The ratio of live shrimp was more than 70 percent. The farm also cultivated shrimp on a trial basis on an area of 2,000 square meters during months in which there was salt water (salinity of about 6 to 16 parts per thousand) and blue lobsters still developed well. In a period of 4 months the output amounted to 900 kilos per hectare.

The results of the farm's experiment demonstrate that it is possible to cultivate blue lobsters in many areas outside the city with little investment capital and high effectiveness.

The above are some of the outstanding units in the movement of shrimp cultivation in the municipality. In general, the movement has developed rather rapidly. In addition to the catching of ocean fish, shrimp cultivation has become a leader in creating a very notable source of exports for the aquatic products sector.

A conference which was held on 22 July of this year in Duyen Hai to recapitulate the movement to raise aquatic products affirmed that in future years the city would:

Go all-out to utilize fully the favorable natural conditions by closely allying with the forestry, agricultural, water conservancy, and other sectors, in endeavoring to, by 1990, use as rationally as possible the entire water area that can be used (about 16,000 hectares), and attain an average of about two quintals per hectare. As for this year's output, endeavor to produce 800 tons of shrimp for export this year and 4,000 tons by 1990.

Create concentrated, high-output shrimp-cultivation areas, especially in Duyen Hai.

Solidly expand all three economic forms: state, collective, and family.

Renovate the organization management in accordance with a closed mechanism encompassing research, production, processing, exporting or domestic consumption, and accumulation for expanded reproduction.

Promote intensive cultivation to increase yields on a relatively large scale and gradually advance to semi-industrial shrimp cultivation and to taking the advantage of breeding by means of artificial insemination.

The aquatic products sector will unify its specialized management. A number of policies and specific regulations regarding the use of bodies of water, the right to use foreign exchange, investment, etc., are being studied so that it can be recommended that the Municipal People's Committee promulgate them to encourage the raising of shrimp. The research and application of scientific-technical advances will be promoted and all-out efforts will be made to win the cooperation and assistance of foreign countries.

With common effort, the flexible and creative organization of guidance, and the harmonious coordination of the relevant sectors, the cultivation of shrimp for export is certain to bring about increasingly greater effectiveness.

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CSO: 4209/854

AGRICULTURE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

TAXATION COMPLAINTS--Due to brown plant hoppers, waterlogging, and flooding, the recent fifth-month spring rice and subsidiary food crop has experienced a decrease in yield in some localities. A particular reason is that a few districts have paid no attention to distributing agricultural supplies promptly and that many cooperatives have given free rein to their members. Those in Chi Linh (Hai Hung), Quynh Luu (Nghe An), and Hiep Hoa (Ha Bac) districts have not had enough paddy and peanuts for delivery because their management boards held on to previously set collection norms, making no allowance for crop losses. Right after harvesting especially, some families were left with no paddy for their own consumption because of taxes, obligatory deliveries, social contributions, etc. A laborer in Quynh Luu who had worked 200 days had only 60 kg of paddy left for subsistence for the next 6 months. Another reason is that cooperative management boards, rather than going out into the fields, continued to stay home, relying on maps to order a blanket cut in collection norms and to decide which fields could pay less, given rise to irrationalities. Fields incurring no losses were made eligible for exemptions while hard-hit families were forced to pay taxes with their own paddy savings since these blanket exemptions were insufficient (Chi Linh, Hai Hung). The policy on obligatory deliveries must be reasonable and equitable and based on tangible facts.

[Article by Hoang Anh] [Text] [Hanoi QUAN DOI NHOAN DAN in Vietnamese 12 Aug 86 p 21]

CSO: 4209/846

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER ENTERPRISE DESCRIBED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 22 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by Nguyen Huu Loc: "Roasted Phosphate Fertilizer Enterprise No 1 Produces Nearly 29,000 Tons of Fertilizer of Various Kinds"]

[Text] With nearly 29,000 tons of fertilizer of various kinds, the Roasted Phosphate Fertilizer Enterprise No 1 (Chemical General Department) has achieved 103.6 percent of its 6-month plan--equal to nearly 42 percent of its annual plan and 19.7 percent higher than its production figure of the same period last year. Moreover, it has, under its own steam, acquired raw materials, supplies, and manpower to build and put into commission a production line for all-nutrient (NPK) fertilizer, more than 1,000 tons of which have so far been turned out to serve agriculture.

These achievements reflected a great effort of cadres and workers amid overwhelming difficulties in raw materials, supplies, energy, and living standards.

The enterprise has taken steps to rearrange production, consolidate some shops, bureaus, and sections to reduce intermediaries, set 20 new economic, technical, and labor norms, pay wages according to product quantity and quality, and adds bonuses to contract wages.

It has researched, manufactured, assembled, and installed equipment at six projects bearing the name of "Sixth Party Congress." These projects have achieved excellent results. The project on supplying hot air to Blast Furnaces Nos 1 and 2 has contributed to reducing the waste of supplies and raw materials and to raising kiln capacity, saving more than 100,000 dong for the treasury. The enterprise has devised, built, assembled, and installed a system designed to pick up nickel slags left in semi-finished phosphate fertilizer (50 tons a year), recovering 5,000 kg in the process. Without outside help, it has manufactured, assembled, and installed a production line for NPK fertilizer (production capacity, 10,000 tons a year), of which more than 1,000 tons have been produced in time for supply to the fields. It has successfully put a scientific and technical research project to work by spraying oil into blast furnaces--instead of using Vang Danh coal--thus raising productivity and product quality and so on.

The enterprise has also taken upon itself the full utilization of local raw materials in turning out secondary products, such as lime, NPK mixed fertilizer, bichromate, chromium ore, construction stones, cement, facing bricks, handi-craft bricks, and ordinary bricks.

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

INSECTICIDE CORPORATION EXERCISES QUALITY CONTROL

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 9 Aug 86 p 1

[Article by X.H.: "Insecticide Corporation of the South Exercises Close Quality Control of Each Production Phase"]

[Text] The State Standards-Measurements-Weights General Department recently upgraded to Grade 1 the Metylparathion 50ND insecticide produced by the Insecticide Corporation of the South (which produces at the Tan Thuan Insecticide Enterprise). Three other kind of insecticide produced by the corporation--Azodrin 50ND, Bassa 50ND, and Kitazin 10H--are also very well liked by the peasants and are still undergoing consideration for recognition as having met state quality standards.

Those results were attained because the Insecticide Corporation of the South is continually concerned with product quality. The corporation constructed a system of quality control laboratories in each enterprise, and is gradually providing additional machinery and equipment to help the units do a good job of carrying out their quality control work.

All imported or domestic raw materials arriving at the factory are given quality control analysis. Only then does the corporation decide upon a formula for combining them and for production procedures. The intermediate products and the completed products, prior to packaging, are inspected to have data for regulating the production procedures. Products in storage in the warehouse are also periodically inspected to evaluate their quality and regulate the storage methods. Before leaving the factory or the warehouse, products must be verified as having met quality standards.

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HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

OIL WELL BUILT--Recently Vietnamese and Soviet engineers and workers at the Joint Vietnam-Soviet Oil and Gas Enterprise drilled and completely built the second oil well (No 28) in the Bach Ho mine. This oil well was drilled slantwise. Seam tests revealed the existence of a good current of industrial oil in the well and provided additional data on the first product of the seam. Based on experiences drawn from the drilling of the previous well, measures concerning rationalized production, equipment use, application of a safe solution, and so on were devised and implemented while drilling the second well. As a result, the teams employed in drilling this well achieved a commercial drilling rate twice as high as that reached while drilling the previous well. [Text] [Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 28 Jun 86 p 1] 9332/12851

CSO: 4209/775

LIGHT INDUSTRY

VIETNAM

HANDICRAFT TEXTILE SECTOR RAISES CONTRACT RATE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by "L.S.": "Municipal Small Industry-Handicrafts Textile Sector Applies New Contract Work Rate More Than 100 Percent Higher Than The Old Rate"]

[Text] Responding to the legitimate aspirations of the workers of the small industry-handicrafts textile sector in the city, the Municipal Price Commission recently authorized the textile installations to apply a new contract work price rate (in accordance with Plan A, work done on a contract basis for the central textile sector), beginning on 1 July of this year, with regard to 28 products. The new rate is more than 100 percent higher (depending on the product) in comparison to the outmoded rate set by the Ministry of Light Industry in October 1985. For example, the new price of eight warp, 12 woof cloth is 25 dong per meter and the price of calico cloth is 2.7493 dong per meter, while the old price was 1.1477 dong per meter and 1.2618 dong per meter.

During the first 6 months of this year the municipal small industry-handicrafts sector mobilized only a little more than 10 percent of its capacity to serve Plan A, and attained results that fell short of the requirements. One of the principal reasons for that situation was that the contract work price was low and did not encourage the workers in the textile sector to produce enthusiastically. Also because the contract work price was irrational, many installations did not sign Plan A contracts in accordance with the stipulated schedule and many workers in the textile sector had to find other work. At the beginning of the second quarter, with the agreement of the Municipal Price Commission authorized a price support of 50 to 70 percent for contracted work. That was the second time during the first half of the year that the city boldly authorized the application of a temporary price level to contribute to stabilizing the living conditions of workers in the small industry-handicrafts textile sector, while awaiting an official contracted work rate of the Ministry of Light Industry.

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CSO: 4209/833

LABOR

VIETNAM

PLAN FOR TIGHTENING UP WEAK CADRES RECOMMENDED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jul 86 p 1

[Contributing Opinion the Party Congress column: "On Assigning, Recruiting, and Professionally Training Cadres and Workers"]

[Text] At present, in the organs and enterprises there are a number of cadres whose ability is deficient, who have sufficient time on the job but are not old enough to retire. Such cadres continue to be employed and impede production. I recommend that the state issue a document to supplement Decree 236/HDBT, to allow those cadres to retire so that the basic units can do a good job of assigning cadres.

In order to supplement cadres who are still weak professionally, I recommend that the state authorize each production sector and locality to have a plan to cooperate with the economic management schools, colleges, and middle schools in drafting an abbreviated curriculum on organizing cadres, salaried labor, materials, finance, etc., for training over a period of 2 or 3 years in the on-the-job training form.

The organs and enterprises have a very difficult time because the Ministry of Labor often assigns labor recruitment norms toward the end of the year. I recommend that the state assign labor recruitment and student recruitment norms with regard to the key state projects and the schools which train on a large scale for many sector. The remaining sectors should be assigned to the provincial and municipal people's committees, so that they could take the initiative in assigning labor to the organs and units in the area and report the results to the Ministry of Labor so that they can be synthesized. On the occasion of the present campaign to reorganize production, there must be a policy to assign all redundant workers during coming years.

In the vocational training of workers, the units encounter many difficulties because the cost of living allowances for students is still too low. I recommend that the state increase the cost of living allowances for students to 75 to 80- percent of the rate for the trade for which they are being trained. Only by resolving that cost-of-living allowance problem will it be possible to create advantages to promote the training of workers in organs and enterprises who do not yet have skills, and improve the workers' vocational quality.

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CSO: 4209/835

LABOR

VIETNAM

PROPER USE OF LABOR IN NATIONAL DEFENSE ENTERPRISES URGED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Aug 86 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Effectively Use Labor Force in National Defense Enterprises"]

[Text] Proper use of the labor force is one of many important factors in developing production and raising labor productivity. Aware of that importance while renovating their managerial system in line with the resolution of the Eighth Plenum of the CPV Central Committee, national defense enterprises have recently taken steps to avail themselves fully and rationally of manpower. Many of these enterprises have rearranged their labor forces, reducing the number of intermediaries and indirect laborers and supplying more laborers to places directly involved in production. Others have undertaken joint ventures to generate more supplies, exploit existing potentials to develop production, create conditions for using labor more appropriately, and contribute to raising the income and living standards of laborers. As a result, worktime and labor productivity have increased at many production installations. Nevertheless, labor discipline is still lax at some enterprises. Due to heavy reliance on superior echelons, they have not been able to exploit existing potentials in a dynamic and creative manner to expand production, add new jobs, and create conditions for the adequate employment of cadres and combatants in military units, resulting in a low involvement in labor.

In present conditions, to maintain and develop production it is imperative for national defense enterprises to do their utmost to use manpower appropriately and effectively. First of all, they should reassess their labor force, organize production lines rationally to reflect the nature of work, and assign laborers to jobs for which they are fit. They should resolutely remove surplus labor as well as inferior labor from production lines. Experiences at some enterprises engaged in production rearrangement indicate that, in classifying cadres and workers, one must take into account their vocational and technical skills, health conditions, moral behavior, and sense of responsibility and discipline. That information enables the enterprises to decide what measures to take and give which jobs to which workers. Laborers in poor health should be assigned to suitable jobs. Those with technical and vocational deficiencies should be helped, transferred to other jobs, or given opportunities to undergo training to sharpen their skills. The enterprises should intensively educate those

laborers who have a flimsy sense of discipline and responsibility and should stand ready, whenever necessary, to administer appropriate administrative correction. Through this approach, national defense enterprises can maximize the production capabilities of all categories of laborers.

Economic planning is not yet truly stable, leading easily to unsatisfactory utilization of manpower in enterprises. Hence, the latter should foster autonomy in production and business and dynamism and creativeness in doing research to find marketable products and in expanding their relationships with various production installations and localities to acquire more supplies and more capital and to turn out more economic goods, thus contributing to multiplying social products, creating new jobs, using manpower more adequately, and raising the income and living standards of laborers.

To increase labor productivity and efficiency, enterprises should attach great importance to labor management. They should teach laborers to comply strictly with labor discipline concerning work schedules and production standards and regulations. At the same time, they should apply widely rational measures, such as computing wages according to products and setting contract wages; thus linking laborers to the quantity and quality of end products and to fair and timely bonuses and penalties.

It falls not only to leading cadres and management organs, but also to all laborers, to use the labor force adequately and rationally. Hence, laborers in national defense enterprises should strive to adhere properly to labor discipline, unceasingly engage in study, improve vocational and technical skills, and meet the ever-growing requirements of production.

9213/9190

CSO: 4209/846

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

MATERIAL LIFE OF WORKERS, CIVIL SERVANTS TO BE IMPROVED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 28 Jun 86 p 1

[Article by Tyong Trac of 80/22 Nguyen Trai Street, 5th Precinct: "Conditions Must Be Created for Workers and Civil Servants To Develop Their Virtues"]

[Text] Because this problem is complex and has a broad scope, this article will only contain some observations and make some suggestions about the economic aspects of daily life in the present circumstances.

Immediately after the August Revolution, our party and state recognized workers and civil servants as honest, good-natured people. This recognition provided a realistic basis for venerable and beloved Uncle Ho to place confidence in these people and to formulate for them the motto "Loyalty to the country, devotion to the people, diligence, thrift, integrity, and justice without partiality." To deserve his confidence, workers and civil servants made every effort and sacrifice to carry the people's revolutionary struggle to complete victory. This conspicuous reality was recognized by the entire world. However, ever since the later 1970's, an increasing number of persons have broken away from this group, got bogged down in the quagmire of individualism, and indulged at first sneakily and then blatantly in negative practices which have ultimately led them to illegal activities. Why so? Because this situation is intricate, its causes are also complex and related to the social background and the management mechanism. In this article, I will deal only with the economic life as I have noticed that most of these people have had to fight constantly against outside temptations and that more often than not the inner voice of their conscience has not been strong enough to enable them to resist these pressures.

Outside temptations are the rich and grand life and the coaxing and bribing acts of those who oppose and take advantage of our weak economy, which our state has not yet taken measures to manage effectively, and who have not yet been punished severely. These persons also include bad elements who have infiltrated our state apparatus at various levels and who are misusing their functions and power to get rich illegally, to fawn on their superiors, and to form their own cliques to oppress the masses; these elements are still living in peace above the law. This has led to a situation where crooked people are rich and conceited while most of the honest laborers are always

poor so that the more difficult it is to earn a living, the harder it is for these honest laborers to fight steadfastly against these temptations which have become greater in the face of such social injustice!

Therefore, we must strive to transform and check negative practices both in the society and among our ranks, to change the management mechanism, and simultaneously to educate workers and civil servants and take good care of their lives.

Under the present price-wage-currency system, the monthly salary and price subsidies paid to an ordinary worker or civil servant are barely enough for him to keep up his family for part of the month even though they have to live thriftily. The launching of a self-criticism and criticism campaign by the party and state is a timely and necessary move but they must simultaneously and urgently transform the social environment. Pending the application of policies and measures to solve the production and wage problem basically and effectively, we suggest that the state and the federation of trade unions launch a great movement and create practical conditions for workers, civil servants, and their children to do sideline business to earn an additional income in accordance with the recently promulgated Decision No 34/UBND. These tasks have been mentioned by state agencies for some time now but no realistic action has been taken as yet. They have spoken about encouraging families to carry out animal husbandry, handicrafts, and so forth but have not assured the sale of livestock feed and raw materials; moreover, contractual prices have been set too low. If many specific incentive measures are taken, the administration and federation of trade unions in the city will surely be able to develop local potentials to resolve this problem. I believe that an enthusiastic response will be elicited from workers and civil servants once they find that sideline business is vitally important to their subsistence; the reason is that most of them do not want to earn their living by illegal means.

It is essential to teach workers and civil servants to keep up and develop their revolutionary virtues but it is necessary, at the same time, to take practical measures to help them earn their living in a legitimate way; otherwise, all advice will move useless in the face of difficulties they are experiencing in their present livelihood.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

INADEQUACIES OF NEWSPAPER SERVICE TO READERS POINTED OUT

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 1 Jul 86 p 2

[Article by Hoai Phan in "Readers' Page": "Service Rendered to Readers Must Have a Mass Struggle Character"]

[Text] Each newspaper has its own readers. Of all newspapers currently published in our city, SAIGON GIAI PHONG is considered to have the most readers. This newspaper is not only an organ which disseminates party and state policies and reports on all aspects of daily life but is also a forum in which people put their confidence and which reflects realities from the grassroots on up.

In our opinion, the service rendered by the newspaper to its readers is one of its most important tasks because readers act as its "eyes and ears."

To my knowledge, at present the Readers' Service Section of the newspaper receives readers calling directly at the newspaper office to give information, verifies and conveys their complaints and denunciations to the agencies concerned for a reply, publishes a "Readers' Page" on Tuesdays, and so on. More and more readers have personally called at the newspaper office to express their views and aspirations; some of them have even come from the provinces for this purpose.

The mass nature of the service rendered to readers is demonstrated by the fact that the newspaper has quickly responded to the readers' demands including complaints and denunciations sent to the newspaper. Matters that concern readers--from world news, socioeconomic life, and citizens' rights and duties to questions about housing and land, lawsuits, public health, social security, and employee recruitment and dismissal--have been directly acknowledged by the newspaper in its "Saigon People's Tribune," "Readers' Opinion," and "Cultural Forum" columns or through direct conversations with readers coming to the editorial office and through answers given by specialists and published by the newspaper. The struggling nature of the service rendered to readers is illustrated by the fact that the newspaper has pointed out "thorny" problems that concern readers, reported on cases of law infringement and the culprits, and suggested measures to be taken to oppose and prevent crimes.

After many years of contact with the Readers' Service Section of SAIGON GIAI PHONG, I have noticed that the newspaper has not yet dealt adequately with the following problems:

First, the questions raised in the readers' letters have not been resolved quite effectively. It must be correctly understood that the duty of the Readers' Service Section is not merely to "forward" the readers' letters. Based on the readers' information, reporters must directly investigate and verify it, get in touch with agencies in charge of investigations and verification, and announce the result obtained and solution provided. To do so, it is naturally necessary to vest reporters in charge of the readers' service with specific responsibilities and rights. The task of keeping track of readers' letters and reporting on their solution has often become stagnant because many agencies have failed to give an answer 5 or 6 months after receiving these letters from the newspaper. Clearly, this is an inexcusable delay and an infringement of the law's provisions on the deadline for solving complaints and denunciations.

Second, the "Readers' Page" deals at length with the law and "imprisonment"! Of course, the law is related to and has to cope with emerging social relationships but reaching and disseminating the law must not be limited to mentioning crimes and punishments. On a higher level, it is necessary to instill in citizens the sense of the need to abide by the law as well as a proper attitude vis-a-vis the new socialist legal system. For this reason, the "Readers' Page" must be geared toward many other aspects of life, have a special tone, and contain mainly the readers' opinion. This must be a feature that distinguishes the "Readers' Page" from others in the newspaper and displays its mass character most obviously.

Third, more attention must be paid to the credibility and accuracy of the answers to readers' letters. Everyone contends that one of the difficulties lies in the outdated law. But this is not completely true. Apart from outdated regulations, there are regulations which are still in force and there are codes of law and legal regulations which will remain effective for a long time to come. The outdated nature of law is mainly manifested in the regulations on economic management. Our opinion is that in answering readers' letters, attention must be paid to the current value of legal regulations. On the other hand, the newspaper must also pay attention to the fact that the readers' letters frequently reflect only their authors' viewpoint about their infringed rights but their allegation is not entirely true as appears from subsequent inquiry and verification. Therefore, the truthfulness of the contents of readers' letters must be verified; if this is done, the newspaper will gain in prestige.

Fourth, the relationships between the newspaper and its contributors are not yet really close and subject to specific regulations. In practice, contributors constitute the broadest network which, in some respects, determines the quality, substance, and diversity of the newspaper. Though they are not professional journalists, contributors maintain close contact with the realities of life and with the masses and some of them are skillful specialists in various sectors. We believe that it is of the utmost importance to establish close relations with contributors by convening periodic meetings with them, by informing them of propaganda subjects, and by creating special conditions for them to

participate better in the newspaper task. On its part, the Readers' Service Section must extend its contributors' network to other areas, such as public health, labor, housing, land, finance, and so forth, instead of confining itself to cooperating only with judicial contributors.

Above are some minor suggestions about the service rendered by the newspaper to its readers. We hope that the SAIGON GIAI PHONG leaders will pay greater attention to this important task in response to the legitimate demand of the people.

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HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

READER COMMENTS ON METHOD OF SELECTING GRADUATE STUDENTS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Jul 86 p 1

[Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column: "Method of Selecting Graduate Students Must Be Changed"]

[Text] At present, there are still matters in the selection of graduate students to study abroad which are irrational and unjust, and tends to especially favor a small number of people. Indeed, only cadres who have graduated from college and have the "good fortune" of working in the institutes or college, or in some of the largest installations in the country, are eligible to be selected, while the other cadres, although they are talented, capable, and qualified to research and study, and although they have achieved merit by working in the most difficult and arduous places, find it difficult to be selected for one reason: there is no quota for them. Therefore, the present method of selecting graduate students:

1. Considerably affects the assignment of work after graduation from college.
2. Fails to encourage approximately 75 to 80 percent of those who are assigned to the installations to go all-out in studying foreign languages and specialized subjects, or to exert themselves in research and work in order to prepare for the selection examinations.
3. Does not result in the selection of the most deserving people (with regard to qualifications, research ability, actual work experience, etc.) to study.

Our state is still poor has little foreign exchange, so the money spent to support graduate students abroad for 3 or 4 years must bring about the best results in study, so that later they serve the nation as well as possible.

We would like to recommend that the party and state, by means of the relevant sectors, see to it that:

1. Everyone who has graduated from college can, after a certain number of years on the job, after they have reached a certain age, and when they have a secure personal history, be eligible for selection as a graduate student to study abroad, no matter what work they are now doing. Those who attain the highest results may be selected to study.

2. The candidates must attain a sufficient level with regard to foreign languages so that they can begin their studies immediately and not waste a year studying a foreign language, especially translating, writing, and reading.

3. In considering applications, I recommend that priority be manifested by a certain number of points, given to people who work in difficult and arduous places, and to people whose research projects have practical value or have good prospects, or make special contributions in the course of their work.

4. Every year the relevant sectors should announce openly and widely the norms for each sector and specialized field, the examination program, the subjects to be tested, the conditions for the examination, and finally the results of the examination and the points earned in each subject examined. The candidates should have the right to appeal and request that their examination be regraded, if necessary.

Those are the common opinions and aspirations of college graduates who are now working in the installations, not to mention those in the colleges, institutes, etc. We ardently hope that the relevant competent sectors, such as the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education, recommend that the National Assembly and Council of Ministers consider them and promptly make an open announcement in the press.

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CSO: 4209/833

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

KHMER PEOPLES' LIFE IMPROVES--In Hau Giang Province, the Khmer language is taught at all school levels, from the general education elementary schools to the general education secondary schools in the Khmer ethnic areas. During the 1985-86 academic year the number of Khmer students increased to more than 10,000. The number of nursery school pupils tripled. The culture-information sector publishes a weekly newsletter in the Khmer language and the Can Tho TV station has a Khmer-language program so that the people in the ethnic villages can follow the news of our country and the world. Attention is paid to caring for the health of the Khmer people. The district and 83 percent of the villages have public health stations and maternity clinics. The public health sector also organizes mobile teams to give inoculations, distribute medicine, and propagandize sanitation among the people. The backward customs of the Khmer people have been limited. The number of ethnic holidays has been reduced and funerals and weddings have been organized in accordance with the new way of life. [VNA News Release: "Hau Giang Improves Cultural Life of Khmer People"] (Text) [Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 29 Jul 86 p 1] 5616

CSO: 4209/835

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIETNAM

DELTA PEOPLE MOVED TO MIDLANDS TO GROW TUNG TREES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 30 Jul 86 p 2

[Article by Le Thanh Doan of Ha Son Binh: "Ha Son Binh Combines Transfer of Labor and Population with Expansion of Food and Industrial Crop Area"]

[Text] Ha Son Binh Province has two regions--the delta and midlands--with a total natural area of 587,510 hectares, including 479,077 hectares (80 percent of the total superficies) of mountainous land which is sparsely populated--147 people per sq km on the average--while the delta is narrow but densely populated--900 people per sq km on the average.

Because the mountain region is vast and sparsely populated, the labor force is insufficient to exploit the land. This is why this region still has over 100,000 hectares of fallow land and bare hills suitable for the cultivation of industrial and food crops.

Fully aware of this advantage, Ha Son Binh has long advocated the need to exploit the potential of the land in order to yield plenty of products to develop the economy and to achieve equilibrium between various zones in the province. Ha Son Binh considers the redistribution of labor and population within the provincial boundaries to be a policy both for the present and for many years to come. The target to be achieved in the next 5 years (1986-90) will be to move 10,000 families with 50,000 people including 20,000 laborers from delta districts to cooperatives in the mountain region and to develop 50,000 hectares of Tung trees and 25,000-20,000 hectares of arrowroots and other crops which yield agricultural products for export such as tea, peanuts, and fibrous plants.

To achieve this target, from 1985 to date, Ha Son Binh has transferred from the delta districts to the mountain region 3,703 families with 16,637 people including 8,603 laborers (the figures for 1985 alone are 3,265 families with 14,798 people including 7,622 laborers).

As planned, these families were settled in concentrated areas to expand the production of industrial crops among which the Tung trees would rank first. Because seeds had been prepared and promptly distributed to production installations, these cooperatives planted Tung trees on 8,448 hectares in 1985. However, sowing and planting were not carefully organized and closely

guided. Because it was the first time they made acquaintance with these trees, our people lacked experience in planting and tending. As a result, the ratio of dead trees was high. A survey showed that Tung trees survived on only 3,429 hectares--a loss of almost 60 percent of the total cultivated area.

After drawing experiences from last year's failure, since the beginning of 1986 Ha Son Binh's policy has been to provide close guidance for sowing and planting and to exercise tight control, evaluation, and supervision. Efforts have been made to achieve a high ratio of living trees and to avoid impetuous, massive planting which will result in the death of many trees and cause great losses. The province has updated its method of guiding production. In previous years, after seeds had been distributed and sown and had grown into young trees, an inspection was made immediately but later nobody maintained and cared for these trees. At present, work is contractually done in two phases: the collective delivers seeds to the cooperative member families who will take care of seed germination in their own houses; after the germination and before seedlings are taken out to the fields for planting, the collective will make the second inspection. For each hectare of Tung trees planted in accordance with technical regulations, a sum of 1,500 dong will be paid. The grower will receive this sum in three installments of 500 dong or 100 kg of rice each, which corresponds to the 3 years he will take care of these trees on behalf of the collective. In addition, an extra amount of 50 dong will be paid each year for his efforts to maintain and protect each cultivated hectare. If the farmer sows and grows subsidiary food crops on the contractually allotted land, he will be entitled to the entire yield of these crops as long as the area grown with Tung trees is not yet assessed.

In addition to guiding and helping laborers to grasp the Tung tree planting technique, the economic affairs committee in the mountain region has provided enough seeds and capital to production installations. Ha Son Binh has opened many training courses to teach the Tung tree sowing and planting technique to cooperative members. Due to the preparation of material bases to help expand the Tung tree area and to the implementation of an appropriate incentive policy, farmers have been growing this tree species with peace of mind and confidence. Since the beginning of this year, Ha Son Binh has grown Tung trees on 7,467 hectares. An inspection has been conducted which reveals that the ratio of living trees is high while that of dead trees has dropped to about 20 percent.

Following the "do short-term tasks to promote long-term ones" motto, members of these cooperatives have coordinated the expansion of the Tung tree area with the full use of land by interplanting food crops in order to solve the nutrition problem on the spot. Together with industrial and good crops, the Tung trees have contributed and will contribute to stabilizing and enriching the lives of people who go and settle in Ha Son Binh.

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY CATHOLICS' ACTIVITIES--Hanoi VNA 1 October--The Ho Chi Minh City Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics has organized diversified activities in response to the International Year of Peace. At the main cathedral Virgin Mary a solemn mass has been held for peace. In his sermon on the occasion, Cardinal Nguyen Van Binh called on the faithful to foster the spirit of peace and to struggle against the war-like forces to preserve peace. A collection of signatures for peace followed. Many parish churches talks were organized on the world situation, the Soviet peace initiatives and the arms race policy of the United States. A seminar for peace was held at the Catholic Centre with the participation of many Catholic clergymen. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 1 Oct 86 OW] /12858

CSO: 4200/23

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VIETNAM

POOR USE OF SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION DECRIED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 12 Jul 86 p 3

[Article by Le Binh: "Two Circles...Marry"]

[Text] This does not concern the "hula hoop" dance of boy and girl, but discusses the relationship between scientific-technical information and production. They may be represented as two circles. We see that the stronger and more effective scientific-technical information activities are the more they affect production activities. Whether the "marriage" between them is strong or weak depends on the scientific-technical level and on to what extent the application of scientific advances has penetrated production.

However, in our city that "marriage" is still weak. It must be admitted that scientific-technical information activities in our city are still very poor, even though the activities of the Innovation and Invention Management Bureau have recently been intensified. Many precincts and districts have set up scientific-technical committees and councils, but they do not engage in scientific-technical activity.

Because they lack research data, many factories, enterprises, and cooperatives still grope their way around in projects to apply technical advances. Once we dealt with a "headache" regarding a desk lamp produced for export, which is a decade behind those produced in foreign countries. Recently, at the Precinct 3 Rubber Corporation Le Chi Hung, in charge of technology, told me a story that was so funny I laughed until I cried. To make the work easier, the technical workers of the Precinct 3 Rubber Corporation spent a lot of time and effort in manufacturing a "steam-powered mold extractor." The machine was designed and manufactured by trial and error, without any reference materials, but in the end they succeeded. Only after a long time had passed did the technical workers come across a foreign publication, printed in 1970, that introduced a "steam-powered mold extractor"! They cried out "My Goodness!" because if they had obtained that information earlier they would have saved much effort, time, materials and raw materials.

In our city it is not unusual for people carrying out research projects to have insufficient scientific-technical information. That situation regarding scientific-technical information is also a matter of concern of a number of well-known scientists in the city. At a meeting held by the Municipal

Scientific-Technical Commission to contribute opinions to the central echelon on the "Draft Resolution on the Scientific-Technical Strategy until the Year 2000," the researchers had to sound the alarm that scientific-technical information was lagging far behind the rapid advances in the world. One of the principal reasons is that no attention is paid to "importing" the newest scientific-technical information in the world. That is not to mention the restrictive mechanism which prevents researchers from taking the initiative in obtaining the newest scientific-technical information from foreign countries.

The functional sectors must promptly pay attention to the "marriage" of the scientific-technical and production circles, and not allow them to be remote from each other, as they are now.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VIETNAM

BETTER USE OF SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL CADRES URGED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Jul 86 p 1

[Article by Hoai Nam: "Scientific-Technical Activities in the City: A 'Topic' in the Recent Self-Criticism Campaign"]

[Text] During a recent conversation, a cadre engaged in scientific-technical management activities said to us:

"In the course of the present self-criticism campaign it became increasingly clear that in the present phase it is truly very difficult to maintain and forge revolutionary moral qualities. In the past, one needed only maintain enthusiasm, endure difficulties, be devoted to the common work, have good relations with fellow workers, not be involved in collusion or corruption, etc., to be regarded by oneself and others as having good moral quality. In the present phase, especially since the issuance of Party Central Committee resolutions on renovating the economic management mechanism, it is clear that that is not enough."

Seeing that I apparently did not fully understand what he was saying, he continued:

"If I do management work and work day and night without eating or sleeping, and do not seek personal benefit and profit, but the elements for which I am responsible do not operate effectively or are wasteful and cause losses for the unit and the state, and if the lives of the workers are difficult and therefore negative phenomena arise, then clearly I am not fully capable and do not have sufficient moral qualities of a management cadre. If I am engaged in research or training but achieve poor results, the same is true."

The results of labor must be regarded as the over-all, foremost standard which manifests everyone's moral quality.

Allowed to participate in and understand the self-criticism meetings of the Municipal Scientific-Technical Commission, and of a number of other scientific-technical organs, we noted that what he said was correct. That is a major "project" that is posed for people engaged in scientific-technical management. The question most worthy of attention in the self-criticism was how each individual and element can contribute to developing to the maximum extent

the existing potential of about 50,000 cadres with college-level or higher educations in the city, so that scientific-technical can play their key role not only in transforming and building the city but also in contributing worthily to the region and the nation.

In its self-criticism, the Municipal Scientific-Technical Commission emphasized that its greatest and most all-encompassing deficiencies were that it has not done a good job of fulfilling its staff function with regard to the direction of scientific-technical development, and it has been slow in studying, and recommending to the city's leadership, appropriate temporary policies, regulations, rules, etc., to resolve two urgent problems for the scientific-technical cadres: rational working conditions and a rational compensation policy.

Its second deficiency is that it is still spread thin and the effectiveness of its operations is low. It has not yet determined the correct point on which to concentrate in order to bring about a major transformation. It has been slow to renovate the management mechanism, it has not boldly decentralized management and its management is still formalistic.

Those were strict, correct evaluations. Recently the Municipal Scientific-Technical Commission has also made all-out initial efforts which are very worthy of praise. It has signed a research contract with the Vietnam Scientific Institute, which began a method of oriented investment in a scientific research organ that can advance from basic research to applied research; invested in a number of research projects on improving the organization of management of industrial production; solicited opinions on preparing for the decentralization of management to the precincts and districts, etc. The Commission is also preparing to submit the key research projects for the approval of the municipal leadership so that it can concentrate its investment capital.

However, in order to overcome those deficiencies it is also necessary to resolve a very large number of difficult, complicated problems.

For example, why, at the recent state fairs and exhibitions were the goods awarded prizes (nearly all of them accomplishments of the application of scientific-technical advances) much more often those of cooperative federation installations than those of the state units? We know many cooperatives and cooperative teams which stipulated that a certain percentage of profits earned from the results of scientific research be set aside for the innovators and managing organs. For example, at the Dong Tam cooperative it is 5 percent, at the Que Huong machinery cooperative it is about 20 percent, and in the cooperative teams it is normally 25 percent. With much investment in "grey matter," the small industry-handicrafts installations still attain high economic effectiveness. With the elimination of negative instances which have not been mentioned here, it is clear that the results of the use of labor (including mental labor), materials, and capital at such installations are far different than at the state organs. The attraction of "grey matter" is also greater. That is not merely due to special treatment but, most important, to flexible organization which is favorable to researchers.

From the few phenomena mentioned above, it can be clearly seen that although the resolutions of the Central Committee and policies of the municipality to expand the right of the production installations have created many basic advantages for the application of scientific-technical advances, but there are still old and new problems which must be positively resolved. For example, the fact that income being that of average management cadre has been a considerable obstacle. In contrast to the small industry-handicrafts installations, if the state units are unsuccessful in organizing the application of scientific-technical advances, the management cadres bear primary responsibility, but if it is successful their salaries do not change.

In order to promote the application of scientific-technical advances, in addition to doing a good job of organizing research and production it is necessary to do a good job of carrying out redistribution. In doing so, it is necessary not only to continue to improve regulations and policies regarding research cadres but also study appropriate policies regarding production management cadres.

Among the research programs with objectives which are being prepared by the Municipal Scientific-Technical Commission to concentrate personnel and investment capital on the city's major economic-social objectives, we see that there are research programs regarding the improvement of economic management. If that program is organized and carried out in a manner worthy of its importance, it will certainly contribute to overcoming one of our city's major weaknesses in the past: not paying adequate attention to economic science and management science, scientific fields with urgent significance for our country at present.

In order to carry out the programs as well as possible, first of all there must be a research program to renovate the organization and management of scientific and technical activities. It must include the training, cultivation, and use of scientific-technical cadres; the organizational structure of each echelon and sector; the working relationship between the research and production units, between the municipal level and the precinct, district, subprecinct, and village levels, and between the city and the organs managed by the central echelon and the provinces; the regulations and policies; and the mission and responsibility of each individual, etc. The contents of the programs and topics have a combined scientific, technical, economic, and social nature. Therefore, only if management and the management have a combined nature can accuracy, and especially effectiveness, be ensured.

Many notable results have been attained in scientific-technical activities in our city. But both the short-range and long-range missions are extremely great. In the present review, many "topic" regarding scientific-technical management have been very clear, but the "topic" that is most all-embracing is the good development of the capabilities of a large industrial city with more than 50,000 scientific-technical cadres.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VIETNAM

READER COMPLAINS ABOUT WASTEFUL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 20 Aug 86 p 1

[Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress column: "Are There Other Ways To Organize Scientific Conferences?"]

[Text] I don't understand why, but with regard to many things we must deal with one aspect or another in an extremely formalistic, imitative manner, but something that cannot be accepted in our country's poor circumstances are things that are very costly and of a boastful nature. One of the matters worthy of discussion is the organization of sector scientific-technical conferences. For example, at a conference held in Ho Chi Minh City hundreds of delegates had to travel from, and return to, Hanoi by air. Dozens of automobile trips were required to take them from the airport to their hotels, and hundreds of hotel rooms were made ready for them. Every day dozens more automobile trips were necessary to take them to the meeting hall, then to eat, then back to their hotels, etc. Then there was the matter of organizing the assembly hall, provide refreshments, invite delegations from the party and governmental echelons, and invite groups of artistic performers. At the conclusion of the conferences there are always banquets that are truly "worthy" of the "prestige" of the sector. That is not all. It is also often necessary to subsidize delegates who make tourist trips to Vung Tau or Da Lat at state expense before arriving here. There are many other expenses which cannot yet be fully calculated. How about the contents of the conferences? Are the economic results good? Is there any way to recoup those expenses? That is not to mention the question of whether investment in the scientific research projects have brought about any results. During the conferences everyone has about 15 minutes to report on their projects. Those projects are highly technical, so except for the reporter few people understand them or want to listen to them. Furthermore, those projects have been published in the journals of the ministry and have been reported on many times (quarterly, annually, etc.) in the scientific organs. In general, everyone who has read the journals know about them, and since they are research cadres it is certain that they have already read them. If it is essential to hold scientific-technical conferences to formalize all scientific-technical projects, is there no other, better way to do so that does not require the expenditure of public funds? I have heard many delegates say, after participating in conferences, that "the conference went nowhere." Even so, there are still organized in a truly sumptuous manner and

many representatives of the governmental and party echelons are invited so that they can be truly imposing. The economic results of the research projects are not evident but state money has been spent and wasted. I dare not say that "they are all alike," that all scientific-technical conferences are formalistic, boastful, and useless, but only dare express opinions on the conferences I have attended. But it is certain that all conferences are very costly, which is a problem we must overcome. Studying the admonitions of Uncle Ho in the book "Correct Working Methods," we must avoid things that are unnecessary and costly.

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